FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Eastern Europe

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ALBANIA

Chernenko's Death, Gorbachev's Election Reported B 1
Trade Agreement With China Signed in Tirana B 1

BULGARIA

Reaction to Chernenko Death, Succession Reported C 1
Chernenko Death Announced C 1
Politburo Honors Chernenko C 2
Leaders Visit Soviet Embassy C 2
Condolence Telegram Reported C 3
Zhivkov Congratulates Gorbachev C 3
Zhivkov Departs for Funeral C 4
BCP Daily Reports Genscher 8 Mar Press Conference C 5
[RABOTNICHESKO DELO 9 Mar]
Visit Termed 'Useful' C 6
[Editorial in RABOTNICHESKO DELO 10 Mar]
Zhivkov Receives Mitsui Company President C 7
Work of Staff Party Organizations in Army Viewed C 7
[NARODNA ARMIYA 4 Mar]

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Reaction to Chernenko Death, Succession Reported D 1
Chernenko's Death Announced D 1
Leader Condolences D 1
Leaders Visit Soviet Embassy D 2
Husak To Attend Funeral D 2
Husak Congratulates Gorbachev D 3
WFTU Condolences D 3
Bilak Holds Talks in FRG With SPD's Brandt, Glotz D 4
Husak Receives Soviet Charge d'Affaires D 4

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Media, Leadership Respond to Chernenko's Death E 1
ADN Reports Leader's Passing E 1
Leadership Sends Condolences E 1
Honecker Congratulates Gorbachev E 2
Honecker Heads Funeral Delegation E 3
Leaders Visit Soviet Embassy E 3
Special Politburo Session Held E 3
Council of Ministers Meets E 4
Day of Mourning Declared E 4
ADN Notes Public Response E 4
FRG Economic Minister Bangemann Received in Berlin E 5
Mittag, Guest Discuss Trade E 5
Honecker, Bangemann Confer E 5
Bangemann 'Very Satisfied' [DPA] E 6

Emigrants' Desire To Return From FRG Reported E 7
[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 6 Mar]
Opening Day Activities at Leipzig Fair Reported E 7
Honecker Leads Walkabout E 7
Soelle Hosts Reception E 8
Italian Minister's Visit 'Fruitful' [ANSA] E 8
Daily Cites U.S. Senator on WW II Veterans Meeting E 9
[NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 8 Mar]
Mittag Addresses Combine Directors on New Tasks E 9
Deputy Chairman Reichelt Holds Talks in Algiers E 11
Meets With Algerian Ministers E 12
Briefs: Border Cooperation With Poland; FRG-GDR Church Declaration E 12

HUNGARY

Reaction to Chernenko Death, Succession Reported F 1
Death Announced F 1
Funeral Arrangements Noted F 2
Day of Mourning Proclaimed F 2
Leader Condolences F 2
Kadar To Attend Funeral F 3
Kadar Congratulates Gorbachev F 4
Korom Meets PZPR Administration Delegation F 4

POLAND

Reaction to Chernenko Death, Gorbachev Election G 1
Condolence Telegram G 1
Congratulations to Gorbachev G 1
Presidium Pays Tribute G 1
Leaders Sign Condolence Book G 1
Flags To Be Lowered G 1
Chernenko Contribution to Peace [Walatek, Stankiewicz] G 2
Chernenko's Life, Work Reviewed G 2
Warsaw Reports Arrest of KPN Activists G 3
Trade Unions Seen as Partners in Economy G 3
Kucza Holds Talks in Libya, Tunisia G 4

ROMANIA

Ceausescu To Lead Delegation to Chernenko Funeral H 1
Chernenko's Death Announced H 1
Ceausescu Cables CPSU H 1
Gorbachev Election Reported H 2
Delegation To Attend Funeral H 2
Manescu Meets Syrian Premier in Damascus H 2
National Women's Conference Held in Bucharest H 3
Ceausescu Addresses Delegates H 3
[SCINTEIA 8 Mar]
Conference Ends 8 March H 11
Appeal Issued H 11

YUGOSLAVIA

Reaction to Messages on Chernenko Death	I 1
TANJUG Reports Death	I 1
Planinc Message to Tikhonov	I 1
Dizdarevic to Gromyko	I 1
Sukrija to CPSU CC	I 1
Sukrija Receives Charge	I 2
Djuranovic to Supreme Soviet	I 2
Alimpic to Supreme Soviet	I 3
TU Council to AUCCTU	I 3
Djuranovic, Sukrija to Funeral	I 3
Sukrija Congratulates Gorbachev	I 4
Chernenko's Influence Viewed [Novacic]	I 4
Sundic Sees No Change	I 5
Defense Minister Mamula Departs for Libya	I 6
Official Confers With Ramadan, Others in Baghdad	I 6
Briefs: New Semiautomatic Rifle	I 6

CHERNENKO'S DEATH, GORBACHEV'S ELECTION REPORTED

AU111737 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1700 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] The Soviet news agency, TASS, reports that Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the party and chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union, died yesterday. According to the same agency, during a plenum of the Central Committee, Mikhail Gorbachev was elected to the position of general secretary.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH CHINA SIGNED IN TIRANA

AU111300 Tirana ATA in English 0940 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Tirana, March 11 (ATA) -- The protocol on the exchange of goods and payments for 1985 between the Government of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania and the Government of the People's Republic of China was signed in Tirana.

The protocol was signed on the Albanian side by the Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Pajtim Ajazi and on the Chinese side by the Vice-Minister of the Economic Relations and Foreign Trade Chen Jie.

Present at the signing ceremony were the members of the two delegations and the director of department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Zeqi Agolli. Attending was also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the PR of China to the PSR of Albania, Xi Zhaoming.

The People's Socialist Republic of Albania will export to the PR of China chrome ore, chrome concentrate copper wires, cement, etc., and will import cotton, automobile tires, tung oil, graphite electrodes, etc.

On the same day, the Minister of Foreign Trade Shane Korbeci received the government trade delegation of the PR of China. Present on this occasion was also the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the PR of China to the PSR of Albania Xi Zhaoming.

REACTION TO CHERNENKO DEATH, SUCCESSION REPORTED

Chernenko Death Announced

AU112121 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2030 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] The BCP Central Committee, the State Council, and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, with deep sorrow announce to the Communists and all Bulgarian people that on 10 March 1985 after a difficult illness Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko died.

In the person of Konstantin Chernenko the Communists and the working people of the USSR, as well as the progressive people throughout the world lost this worthy son of the Soviet people, the steady and consistent Marxist-Leninist, noted figure of the CPSU and the Soviet state, inspired organizer of socialist construction, one of the noted figures of the international communist and workers' movement, and steady fighter for the cause of peace and communism.

The Bulgarian Communists and all Bulgarian people lost a sincere and loyal friend.

In all posts entrusted to him by the party, Konstantin Chernenko showed party principle-mindedness, selflessness, high innovation, and loyalty to the great communist ideal. Under his leadership the CPSU Central Committee developed and implemented the party decisions on perfecting the mature socialist society, adopted decisive measures to further strengthen the USSR economy and increase the well-being of the people on the basis of a comprehensive intensification and acceleration of the scientific-technological process, on developing intellectual life, and on strengthening the defensive capability and security of the USSR.

His merits lay in increasing the leading role of the party in the life of Soviet society, in perfecting the style and methods of party and state activity, developing socialist democracy, strengthening discipline, legality, and order. As party and state leader, Konstantin Chernenko made an important contribution to strengthening the unity and cohesion of the fraternal socialist parties, strengthening the Warsaw Pact, further perfecting CEMA's activity, and to the transition toward a new stage of socialist economic integration. He was a tireless fighter for strengthening the role and place of the socialist community, and uniting the international communist and workers' movement on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

With justification Konstantin Chernenko achieved the reputation of a consistent and steady fighter for peace and security throughout the world, as well as for disarmament and the prevention of thermonuclear war, peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems, and for decisively opposing the aggressive plans of imperialism's reactionary circles. His activity was connected with important initiatives of the USSR in international life.

The Bulgarian Communists and the entire Bulgarian people highly value the contribution of Konstantin Chernenko to developing fraternal cooperation between the BCP and the CPSU, and strengthening the comprehensive coming together between our countries and peoples. The death of Konstantin Chernenko is a heavy loss for the Soviet people and for communists and progressive people throughout the world. All Bulgarian working people are also mourning for Konstantin Chernenko. The bright image of the Communist, man, and leader, Konstantin Chernenko, will always remain in the heart of the Bulgarian people. Deep respect to the memory of the unforgettable Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko!

[Signed] BCP Central Committe; State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria; Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

Politburo Honors Chernenko

AU112014 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 11 Mar 85

["Extraordinary Meeting of the BCP Central Committee Politburo"]

[Text] With deep pain the BCP Central Committee Politburo is paying respect to the cause and bright memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, a noted figure of the CPSU and the Soviet state, a steady fighter for lasting peace, strengthening friendship and cooperation among nations, and the triumph of the communist ideal. The Politburo unanimously adopted the high evaluation expressed by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, on the remarkable contribution of Konstantin Chernenko to developing fraternal cooperation between the CPSU and the BCP, and to strengthening the comprehensive coming together of the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and of the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples, and on his great merits for strengthening the unity and power of the socialist community, as well as on his contribution to strengthening the unity of all revolutionary forces throughout the world and preserving peace.

The Politburo confirms that the BCP and its Central Committee will further and steadily conduct the life-tested policy of comprehensive cooperation and coming together of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the USSR, and of the Bulgarian people and the great and fraternal Soviet people in the struggle to build mature socialism and the triumph of peace and socialist ideals.

The Politburo adopted measures on rendering worthy respect to the life and cause of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko by the Communists and the entire people of socialist Bulgaria.

Leaders Visit Soviet Embassy

AU121040 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Today party and state leaders led by Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, went to the Soviet Embassy in Sofia to express sincere condolences on the death of Konstantin Chernenko, noted figure of the international communist and workers movement and a firm combatant for the triumph of communism and for lasting peace and mankind's social progress.

The following persons stood as an honor guard in the mourning corner of the embassy: Comrades Todor Zhivkov, Grisha Filipov, Dobri Dzhurov, Yordan Yotov, Milko Balev, Ognyan Doynov, Pencho Kubadinski, Petur Mladenov, Petur Tanchev, Stanko Todorov, Todor Bozhinov, Chudomir Aleksandrov, Andrey Lukanov, Georgi Atanasov, Georgi Yordanov, Grigor Stoichkov, Dimitur Stoyanov, Petur Dyulgerov, Stanish Bonev, Stoyan Karadzhov, Dimitur Stanishev, Stoyan Mikhaylov, Vasil Tsanov, Kiril Zarev, and Emil Khristov.

Our party and state leaders wrote in the condolences book:

On behalf of the BCP Central Committee, the State Council, and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Bulgarian Communists and the entire Bulgarian people, we express to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers, the Soviet Communists, and the entire Soviet people most sincere condolences on the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. We deeply respect the life and cause of the loyal son of the Soviet people, noted figure of the CPSU and the Soviet state, firm combatant for communism and peace.

Under the leadership of Konstantin Chernenko the CPSU Central Committee developed and analyzed the party's strategy on perfecting the mature socialist society. Great are his accomplishments in strengthening the comprehensive cooperation among the fraternal socialist countries, strengthening the unity and cohesion of the international communist and workers movement, and consistently implementing the Soviet peace initiatives aimed at removing the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe and protecting and strengthening the cause of world peace and detente. Konstantin Chernenko will always remain in our people's memory as a great friend of socialist Bulgaria who made a remarkable contribution to developing Bulgarian-Soviet friendship and the comprehensive coming together of our parties, countries, and peoples.

Deep respect to the bright memory of the Communist, man, and leader Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko.

Condolence Telegram Reported

AU112143 Sofia BTA in English 2135 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Sofia, March 11 (BTA) -- "With the death of Mr. Konstantin Chernenko the Bulgarian Communists, the Bulgarian people lost a faithful friend and ardent champion of realizing the joint course of the BCP and the CPSU towards all-round cooperation and getting closer between Bulgaria and the USSR and of the constant flowering of the indestructible Bulgaro-Soviet friendship", the telegram of condolences of the CC of the BCP, the State Council and the Council of Ministers of Bulgaria to the CC of the CPSU, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the USSR in connection with the demise of Konstantin Chernenko reads.

We render homage to the life and work of the eminent figure of the Leninist Communist Party, of the Soviet state and of the international communist and workers movement, to the staunch champion of the triumph of communism, of lasting peace and the social progress of mankind.

The telegram stresses that in the person of Konstantin Chernenko, the BCP, the Bulgarian workers saw an example of a leader of the Leninist type who devoted his knowledge and experience, strength and talent to the victory of the Marxist-Leninist teaching, to the construction and perfecting of the advanced socialist society in the Soviet Union and to the happiness and prosperity of the heroic Soviet people. The telegram stresses M. Konstantin Chernenko's contribution to raising the socialist economic integration to a new, higher stage, and to consolidating the unity and the strength of the socialist community.

"All progressing mankind will with gratitude remember Konstantin Chernenko as a selfless champion of stopping the arms race and of disarmament, of the preservation and consolidation of detente, of peace and security, of cooperation based on equal rights between on countries on our planet" the telegram reads. [sentence as received] "Together with you, dear Soviet brothers and sisters", the telegram reads in conclusion, "we mourn the great loss and we express our firm resolution to continue to pursue the common course towards the complete victory of the communist ideal."

Zhivkov Congratulates Gorbachev

AU112216 Sofia BTA in English 2214 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Sofia, March 11 (BTA) -- Mr. Todor Zhivkov, secretary general of the CC of the BCP has sent Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev a telegram in which on behalf of the CC of the BCP and on his own behalf he congratulates him on the occasion of his being elected secretary general of the CC of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The telegram reads: "The Bulgarian Communists, the Bulgarian people know you as a faithful son of the great Soviet people, as an outstanding figure of the renowned Communist Party of the Soviet Union and as a faithful follower of Lenin's immortal legacy. We are convinced that under your leadership the Central Committee of the CPSU will continue to successfully organise and direct the creative energy of the Communists, of all the Soviet workers in implementing the historic task -- the still further perfecting of the advanced socialist society.

The Bulgarian Communist Party, the Bulgarian people will continue to stride shoulder by shoulder with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet people in the common struggle for the deepening of the cooperation and cohesion of the fraternal socialist community, for consolidating the unity of the international communist and workers movement on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, for the preservation and strengthening of peace and for the happy future of mankind.

It is our unshakable belief that the life-giving Bulgaro-Soviet friendship, the all-round cooperation and getting closer between the BCP and the CPSU and between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union will continue to develop fruitfully and to flourish in the name of the well-being of our fraternal peoples and in the interest of world socialism."

Zhivkov Departs for Funeral

AU120842 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 0820 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Editorial Report] Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian at 0820 GMT on 12 March interrupts its regular program and begins a live relay from Sofia airport on the departure of Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and State Council chairman, for Moscow, where he will take part in Chernenko's funeral.

The announcer describes the "deep sorrow of the Bulgarian people" at Chernenko's death. "In his person our Communists and working people lost a sincere and loyal friend, who did much for developing fraternal cooperation between the BCP and the CPSU, for Bulgarian-Soviet coming together, and for the development of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship."

The announcer stresses that "the personal participation of Comrade Todor Zhivkov in the funeral is an expression of the gratitude of our party and state toward the life and cause of the Leninist leader and friend and comrade of the People's Republic of Bulgaria."

The announcer reports that "Comrade Todor Zhivkov, who is accompanied by Comrade Grisha Filipov, boards the airplane. Dimitur Zhulev, our ambassador to the USSR, will join them in Moscow."

The following officials are identified by the announcer as attending the ceremony at the airport: "Comrade Dobri Dzhurov, Yordan Yotov, Milko Balev, Ognyan Doynov, Pencho Kubadinski, Petur Mladenov, Petur Tanchev, Stanko Todorov, Todor Bozhinov, Chudomir Aleksandrov, Andrey Lukanov, Georgi Atanasov, Georgi Yordanov, Grigor Stoichkov, Dimitur Stoyanov, Petur Dyulgerov, Stanish Bonev, Stoyan Karadzhov, Dimitur Stanishev, Stoyan Mikhaylov, Vasil Tsanov, Kiril Zarev, and Emil Khristov."

The live relay ends at 0824 GMT.

BCP DAILY REPORTS GENSCHER 8 MAR PRESS CONFERENCE

AU111742 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 9 Mar 85 p 2

[RABOTNICHESKO DELO report on press conference given by Hans-Dietrich Genscher, FRG vice chancellor and minister of foreign affairs, on 8 March in Sofia, prior to his departure]

[Text] I am leaving Sofia with the conviction that Bulgaria and the FRG will devote all their efforts to make their constructive contribution to the improvement of East-West relations, declared Hans-Dietrich Genscher, FRG vice chancellor and minister of foreign affairs, at a press conference with Bulgarian and foreign journalists today. The talks we held in Sofia reflected the conviction of both sides that all European states must contribute to overcoming the contradications between East and West and to the encouragement of detente and cooperation, he added.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher expressed the hope that the forthcoming negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States in Geneva will observe the agreements of 8 January 1985 and that the problems connected with space and nuclear weapons and their mutual interconnection will be comprehensively discussed. At the same time, Genscher declared, the question of scientific-research activities in connection with producing weapons for "star wars" is directly linked to the results of the talks. This statement, however, did not clarify whether the political support which the FRG accords to Washington in connection with this kind of activity will be followed by direct participation in research work.

Asked about the specific goals of his diplomatic "marathon" in East Europe, Hans-Dietrich Genscher stated as follows: The Europeans themselves can greatly contribute to a change in East-West relations. Each individual country on this continent must play its role in this process. This is precisely why the FRG is trying to improve its relations with all states belonging to the socialist community.

"I think that the talks with our Eastern partners have always been very important, particularly when great international events are imminent," the FRG minister of foreign affairs declared.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher thinks that relations between Bulgaria and the FRG are developing positively. The prospects of economic cooperation are favorable and the two sides must take advantage of this. Relations between medium and small enterprises offer particularly valuable opportunities today, he added. In the future Bulgaria and the FRG should no longer be satisfied with traditional forms of cooperation, but strive for more extensive production sharing by using the most modern technological solutions.

The minister announced that the FRG is preparing a symposium of economic leaders from both countries aimed at intensifying the mutual economic relations. Bulgaria's forthcoming participation in the Hannover fair may exert a positive impact in this connection, he stated.

How does the FRG Government consider the unjustified attacks against Bulgaria by certain circles in the West according to which, Bulgaria allegedly supports international terrorism and what does the FRG think about the cooperation of the two countries in the struggle against drug traffic? Answering these questions, the minister stated that the problems of the struggle against terrorism and against drug traffic were a subject of discussion during his present talks. There are examples of good cooperation in this respect, he declared. He agreed that one of these examples was a case a few years ago, when West German extremists, sought throughout Europe, were caught in Bulgaria and immediately extradited to the FRG.

Genscher also expressed appreciation for the cooperation in dealing with drug traffic, cooperation which he described as good. In the future we will intensify our cooperation in this field by entrusting specialized organs from both countries with these tasks, he stated.

Visit Termed Useful

AU111722 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 10 Mar 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Useful Dialogue for the Sake of Peace"]

[Text] The official visit paid to our country by Hans-Dietrich Genscher, FRG federal vice chancellor and minister of foreign affairs of the FRG, at the invitation of Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, is of great importance for the development of Bulgarian-West German relations, as well as for the comprehensive atmosphere on the European Continent. The Sofia dialogue took place at a moment when peace-loving mankind looks forward with hope to the negotiations beginning on 12 March in Geneva between the Soviet Union and the United States. In an atmosphere of frank and serious talks the two sides expressed their stands on topical issues of international relations, including disarmament.

As Comrade Todor Zhivkov declared during his meeting with the West German guest, the present complicated situation in Europe and the world could be changed in a positive direction only through a businesslike and honest dialogue, above all on the problems of disarmament, and particularly in the nuclear sector. The People's Republic of Bulgaria thinks that only by observing the principles of equality and equal security, and by strictly observing the agreement reached on 8 March 1985 between the Soviet Union and the United States, can positive results be achieved at the Geneva negotiations.

Our people welcome the Soviet-American negotiations in the disarmament sector on the complex of interconnected questions about space and nuclear weapons, and we are convinced that the prevention of militarization of outer space is a task of vital importance for peace.

The Bulgarian side expressed its concern as regards the approach of Washington to the negotiations, in which the United States Administration is trying to substitute its own goal and subject, and because of the overt plans for the militarization of outer space mapped out by the United States. During the Bulgarian-FRG talks it was noted that if the FRG were to be involved in the so-called scientific-research work in connection with the production of weapons for "star wars", this would imply a serious responsibility on the part of the FRG. It is of particular importance at the present moment that the West European governments manifest realism and political farsightedness concerning this problem of crucial importance so the arms race in outer space can be averted.

Minister Petur Maldenov and Hans-Dietrich Genscher exchanged opinions on the procedure of the Vienna negotiations and the Stockholm conference, pointing out that successful conclusion of these meetings will be of great importance in consolidating mutual confidence and for essential, positive changes in East-West relations. Both sides expressed the opinion that the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Helsink Final Act should be worthily celebrated and marked at a political level, which should be in conformity with the present state of international relations. The Bulgarian minister of foreign affairs described the attempts of certain circles in the West to question the territorial-political realities existing on our continent -- on the basis of decisions made at the Yalta and Potsdam conferences' and as a result of the postwar development -- as a trend causing concern. The forthcoming, extensive celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism must become an opportunity for serious reflection and a lesson for all circles that are striving to turn back the wheel of history.

During the Sofia talks the state of bilateral relations in various sectors was discussed. It was unanimously determined that these relations are good and that they are proceeding normally and developing without any problems. Economic and scientific-technical cooperation is developing successfully on a mutually advantageous basis. The positive development of trade worth a total of $700 million in 1984 -- was emphasized and it was pointed out that it is necessary to adopt certain measures to encourage and more successfully balance this trade and improve Bulgarian exports to the FRG. Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Petur Mladenov signed an agreement aimed at extending for a new period of 10 years the agreement signed between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the FRG for the development of economic, industrial, and technical cooperation.

The Bulgarian public appreciates the most recent Bulgarian-West German dialogue as necessary and useful for both sides. This dialogue will undoubtedly contribute to efforts to overcome stagnation in East-West relations and to consolidate peace and security on the planet.

ZHIVKOV RECEIVES MITSUI COMPANY PRESIDENT

AU112008 Sofia BTA in English 1909 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Sofia, March 11 (BTA) -- Today, Mr. Todor Zhivkov, president of the State Council received the president of the Japanese "Mitsui" Company Mr. Toshikuni Yahiro. During the talks they discussed issues of the cooperation between Bulgarian economic organisations and the Japanese firm.

WORK OF STAFF PARTY ORGANIZATIONS IN ARMY VIEWED

AU071045 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 4 Mar 85 pp 1-2

[Text] In implementing the decisions of the 12th BCP Congress on enhancing the role and influence of the basic party organizations, a number of political organs and party committees have established staff party organizations wherever the necessary conditions for this exist. A representative of our editorial board addressed Major General Petur Iliev, deputy chief of the People's Army Main Political Administration, with a request to share his thoughts on the state and development of these staff party organizations.

[Interviewer] Comrade Major General, what does the experience of the past activities of staff party organizations reveal?

[Iliev] The majority of staff party organizations established in the Army have accumulated great political and organizational experience. The positive aspects of their work confirmed the correctness of the party line on specifying party work, and on the closer linking of party work with the specific tasks that are being coped with in the smaller collectives. In this respect the staff party organizations have vast opportunities. They are enjoying all the rights, but are also entrusted with the responsibilities of basic party organizations, with the exception of the right to recruit and expel party members from the BCP.

The experience of these organizations in the detachments where the political-officers Tsankov and Stoimenov are serving revealed a number of peculiar features and additional opportunities that are actively contributing to improving the quality of party work.

For example, let us concentrate on the problem of intensifying the participation of every party member in daily party work.

This includes the preparation of and participation in various forms and activities of the party organizations, and the preparation of reports, evaluations, decisions, and statements at meetings, sessions, and so forth. The aforementioned organizations are smaller as regards their membership and this gives each Communist the opportunity to engage in specific activities, as well as to demonstrate his abilities. Taking into consideration the fact that approximately 40 percent of the Communists within the Army are young people with insufficent party experience, this gives them a favorable opportunity to get involved, to learn, and to develop as contemporary political figures.

The establishment of staff party organizations in smaller Army and production collectives also facilitates a specification of the subject and meaning of their work, and a closer linkage of their activities to practical life and to the tasks that the subdetachments and services have to cope with. Experience makes it possible for us to stress that wherever political departments and party leaderships are using the opportunities of staff party organizations with skill, their inner ideological and organizational life is developing and actively influencing the collectives in which they have been established, in implementing the party decisions and the tasks assigned to them.

The staff party organizations have certain obligations as regards the enhancing of the Communists' sense of responsibility and as regards the communist education of the Army personnel.

[Interviewer] Can you describe the difficulties arising in the process of improving the work of staff party organizations up to the level of basic party organizations?

[Iliev] In implementing control activities and assisting the troops in this work we have ascertained that certain political departments, as well as deputy commanders of political affairs and party leaderships have failed to fully appreciate the importance and the opportunities of the staff party organizations, and this is why their activities, in many respects, are lagging behind, keeping them down to the level of party groups.

In the detachment in which Officer Aleksandrov is serving as deputy chief of political affairs, and Officer Koshev as instructor on party-political questions, insufficient attention is devoted to the training and preparation of secretaries and aktivists in staff organizations. As a result of this, the party aktivists are not able to correctly map out the agenda for the activities of the organizations they are supervising; many of their measures are not properly prepared nor are they implemented at the necessary level of quality. In part of these organizations documents and files are not regularly kept, protocols are not properly prepared, recommendations are not assessed, and so forth. Such shortcomings are reducing the efficiency of work.

Some basic party organizations, such as one headed by Secretary Officer Gunchev, are restricting the possibilities of the staff party organizations, preventing them from fully revealing their capacities by holding monthly party meetings in the basic party orgnization, which produces repetitions of the problems discussed and results in a waste of time spent on the preparation of such meetings. Under such circumstances certain staff party organizations continue to feel like and to act as groups.

These and other similar examples show that it is not enough to establish staff party organizations, but that systematic efforts are necessary to promote their activities in conformity with party requests and with the existing opportunities.

[Interviewer] The Main Political Administration of the People's Army is now submitting new requirements to the party work.

Which of them apply to the work of the staff party organizations?

[Iliev] All requirements apply to an equal extent to staff party organizations as well. Upon the basis of the great, new requirements of the National Party Conference and in view of the new postulates and approaches submitted by Comrade Todor Zhivkov in May 1984, the Bureau of the Main Political Administration of the People's Army subjected the work of political organs and party organizations in connection with enhancing the role of Army organizations to a thorough analysis, and evaluated their work in the struggle to raise the troops' combat readiness to a qualitatively new level. The bureau adopted a decision on this question, which represents a guideline for the political organs and party organizations in their work. The implementation of these guidelines will also produce a new, qualitative improvement in the work of staff party organizations. The meaning and essence of the revolutionary thought and action of the Communists must most actively contribute to the implementation of the achievements of scientific-technological progress and to their application within the Army. The role and political impact of party organizations must be further enhanced. These organizations are obliged to set an example of new action and thought, of struggle against cliches and routine, against indifference and passiveness; they are obliged to stimulate initiative and creative spirit.

It is very important today to increase the skill of party leaderships so that they may guide the agenda of the meeting toward the most vital and topical problems which concern the Communists and which will give the most decisive impetus to a high quality implementation of all tasks. A special role must be assigned to the preparation and implementation of party meetings, to the establishment of an atmosphere of mutual confidence.

The staff party organizations must actively use more varied and more efficient forms of party work. It is necessary that the party leadership and poltical organs face the great requirements assigned to work within staff party organizations and that they directly care for the development of such organizations by studying and by summing up and propagating positive experience in their activities. They must guide the Communists in implementing their functional obligations so that every task is accomplished at a high quality level. Greater requirements are now imposed upon the inner-organizational, cultural standards of staff party organizations, including the handling of files and documents.

The implementation of these tasks demands constant study of party decisions, of the order issued by the minister of national defense, and of the instruction issued by the chief of the Main Political Administration, as well as a creative approach to the conditions under which staff party organizations are working. We must perseveringly implement all decisions adopted by the organizations themselves. We must mobilize and involve the Communists in a high quality and timely implementation of all tasks pertaining to training and to the combat readiness of the troops.

The staff party organizations, united with all soldiers and all Army collectives, are developing and will continue developing even more active, purpose-oriented, and energetic activities in 1985 and will worthily prepare for the 13th BCP Congress.

REACTION TO CHERNENKO DEATH, SUCCESSION REPORTED

Chernenko's Death Announced

LD111157 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1124 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers inform the party and all Soviet people with deep sorrow that Konstantin Cherenenko, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, died on 10 March at 1720 [as heard] after a serious illness.

The name of Konstantin Chernenko, an outstanding official of the Communist Party and the Soviet state and a staunch fighter for the ideals of communism and peace, will forever remain in the hearts of the Soviet people and all progressive mankind.

Leader Condolences

LD111752 Pargue Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1700 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] The CPCZ Central Committee, the president of the Republic, and the Government of the CSSR have sent the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers a telegram of condolences on the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The text is as follows:

Dear Comrades, we received with profound grief the news of the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, the highest representative of the CPSU and Soviet state, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, an outstanding figure in the international communist and workers' movement, and three-time Hero of Socialist Labor of the Soviet Union.

On behalf of Czechoslovakia's communists and all the Czechoslovak people, we express our deepest sympathy to you, to all Soviet communists, and to the fraternal Soviet people. In Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, the CPSU and the Soviet people have lost an important party and state representative, a true Marxist-Leninist, a patriot, an internationalist who was fully committed to the cause of the party and the Soviet homeland, and a resolute fighter for peace among nations.

The life of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, devoted to disinterested service of the interests of his country and its people, was indivisibly linked for more than half a century with the struggle of the CPSU for the victory of socialism, peace and progress. Through his activity in senior and supreme party and state posts, he showed great merit in building and developing socialist society in the Soviet Union.

Under the leadership of Comrade Chernenko, Soviet communists and the Soviet people achieved important successes in their creative construction work, in implementing the conclusions of the 26th CPSU Congress, and in perfecting developed socialism. Through his theoretical and organizational activity, Comrade Chernenko made an important contribution to deepening understanding of the inexorable laws of the current stage of development of socialist society. The contribution of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko to improving the current complex international situation was great.

The immense effort exerted by the Soviet Union in implementing its principled peaceful foreign policy in the struggle to preserve world peace and to avert the threat of nuclear war is winning great recognition from democratic and progressive forces the world over. This peace effort of the Soviet Union also has the full support of all the Czechoslovak people.

We highly value the personal merit of Comrade Chernenko in promoting cooperation and consolidating the unity and cohesion of the states of the socialist community and of the international communist and workers' movement.

In Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, Czechoslovakia and her people have lost a sincere friend who devoted great attention to the development of comprehensive relations between our communist parties and the peoples of both our countries. For his merit in consolidating Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship and comprehensive cooperation between the CPCZ and the CPSU and between the CSSR and the USSR, he was awarded the Order of Klement Gottwald.

Throughout our country we are sharing, dear comrades, in the deep grief of you and of the fraternal Soviet people. We assure you that we will exert every effort to further consolidate the fraternal bonds between our parties, countries, and peoples for the victory of socialism and peace throughout the world.

Leaders Visit Soviet Embassy

LD121043 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 0900 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Profound condolences on the death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko were expressed today in Prague at the Embassy of the Soviet Union by Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Republic; by Vasil Bilak, Karel Hoffmann, Alois Indra, Milos Jakes, Antonin Kapek, Josef Kempny, Josef Korcak, and Lubomir Strougal, members of the Presidium of the party Central Committee; by Jan Fojtik and Josef Haman, candidate members of the Presidium of the party Central Committee; by Mikulas Benos, Josef Havlin, Frantisek Pitra, and Jindrich Polednik, secretaries of the CPCZ Central Committee; by Zdenek Horeni and Marie Kabrhelova, members of the Secretariat of the party Central Committee; and by Jaroslav Hajn, chairman of the Central Control and Auditing Commission of the CPCZ.

The CPCZ representatives conveyed their sincere sympathy to Igor Cherkasov, the charge d'affaires of the Soviet Union in Czechoslovakia, and signed the book of condolences.

Husak To Attend Funeral

LD121121 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1100 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] A Czechoslovak party and state delegation led by Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Republic, is to attend the funeral of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. Also in the delegation will be these members of the party Central Committee Presidium: Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal and Vasil Bilak, secretary of the party Central Committee. Czechoslovak ambassador to the Soviet Union Miroslav Zavadil will join the delegation in Moscow.

The Czechoslovak party and state delegation led by Comrade Hustav Husak left Prague today for Moscow.

It was seen off at Ruzyne Airport by members and candidate members of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, secretaries and members of the party Central Committee Secretariat, the chairman of the party's Central Control and Auditing Commission, chiefs of Central Committee departments, federal government ministers, and other officials. Also present were Igor Cherkasov, Soviet charge d'affaires in Czechoslovakia, and other staff of the Soviet embassy in Prague.

Husak Congratulates Gorbachev

LD111837 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, has sent Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev a telegram of congratulations on his election to the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The text of the telegram is as follows:

Dear Comrade Gorbachev, on your election to the post of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, please accept most hearty congratulations from the CPCZ Central Committee, from all our people, and from me personally. The entrustment to you of the supreme post of the CPSU is an expression of the profound trust and respect shown to you by communists and by all Soviet working people as an important party and state representative.

We are firmly convinced that the Soviet people -- under the leadership of their Leninist Communist Party and its Central Committee, at whose head you have been placed -- will achieve new and great successes in building their socialist homeland. With great attention we follow the efforts which the CPSU Central Committee and you personally are making -- in preparing a new edition of the party's program and its 27th congress -- to the creative theoretical and practical elaboration of questions concerning the comprehensive perfection of developed socialism. We highly value the decisive contribution of the CPSU and the Soviet state to the joint fight of the peace-loving, democratic, and progressive forces of the world to prevent the outbreak of nuclear war and to preserve peace. The Soviet Union, which bore the heaviest sacrifices in the heroic struggle against Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism, is again today the main guarantee for the peaceful future of mankind.

In your person, dear Comrade Gorbachev, we are also greeting a close friend of our country who pays constant attention to strengthening Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship, alliance, and comprehensive cooperation. We are sincerely glad that the fraternal relations between our parties, states, and peoples, founded on the firm principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, are being strengthened from year to year. This is in the interests of the peoples of both our countries, of the unity and cohesion of the socialist community, of the international communist and workers' movement, and of the victory of peace and socialism. Please accept our assurance that Czecholsovakia's Communists and all our people will do everything for the consistent implementation of these common aims. With all our heart, we wish you, dear Comrade Gorbachev, good health, great strength, and success in carrying out your difficult and responsible duties.

WFTU Condolences

LD111749 Prague CTK in English 1705 GMT 11 Mar 85

["Telegram to CPSU Central Committee" -- CTK headline]

[Text] Prague March 11 (CTK) -- The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) sent today a telegram of condolences to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union on the death of Konstantin Chernenko.

"Comrade Chernenko devoted all his life to advance the cause of the working class and his great contribution to the building and consolidation of socialism in the Soviet Union and for the preservation of peace on our planet are hailed throughout the world."

"The WFTU pays homage to the memory of a great son of the Soviet working people and a great revolutionary and internationalist who always stood with the working people in all countries struggling for national and social liberation," the telegram signed by WFTU General Secretary Ibrahim Zakaria said.

BILAK HOLDS TALKS IN FRG WITH SPD'S BRAND, GLOTZ

LD121055 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Vasil Bilak, Presidium member and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, arrived in the FRG today at the invitation of the West German Social Democratic Party [SPD].

Petr Nemec, our permanent Bonn correspondent, sent the following dispatch on the talks:

[Begin Nemec recording] The working visit of Comrade Bilak culminated today in Bilak's meeting with Willy Brandt, the SPD leader. An exhaustive exchange of views took place on the development of the international situation, stressing the beginning of the USSR-U.S. talks in Geneva, and the problems of mutual relations. The Czechoslovak guest stressed in his conversation with the representative of the West German SPD the most important task at present. Despite all the differing views on the development of society, we are connected by this most significant task -- working to strengthen and preserve peace. Vasil Bilak praised the personal contribution of Willy Brandt to the development of mutual relations, a new stage of which was opened by the treaty between the two countries which Brandt signed. The treaty, among other things, acknowledges the invalidity of the Munich diktat from the very beginning. Willy Brandt, too, supported the idea that joint work for peace must not be hindred by differences of opinion that arise from the differing social systems of the two states and from their belonging to different military-political formations.

Prior to this meeting, Comrade Bilak had talks with Peter Glotz, SPD federal business manager, who briefed the Czechoslovak representative on the results of yesterday's election in Saarland and the state of Hesse in which the SPD significantly increased its support. With regard to the imminent USSR-U.S. talks in Geneva, Peter Glotz recalled the Social Democrats' rejection of plans for the militarization of space and possible links between the FRG and U.S. research program related to it. Comrade Bilak welcomed the initiative of the West German SPD on this year's 40th anniversary of the defeat of fascism and said that the peace discussion under preparation, organized by the SPD in Nuerenberg on 7 May, will be attended also by representatives from Lidice.

In the afternoon, the Czechoslovak guest paid a visit to North Rhine-Westfalia, where he had talks with the representatives of the local government and parliament and also met representatives of economic circles. [end recording]

HUSAK RECEIVES SOVIET CHARGE D'AFFAIRES

LD111513 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1400 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of the Republic, received in Prague today Igor Cherkasov, charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Czechoslovakia, with whom he discussed some topical questions concerning mutual cooperation between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union.

MEDIA, LEADERSHIP REACT TO CHERNENKO'S DEATH

ADN Reports Leader's Passing

LD111130 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1108 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 11 Mar (ADN) -- The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers announce in deep grief to the party and to the whole Soviet people that Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, passed away on 10 March 1985 at 1920 Moscow time, following a severe illness.

The name of Konstantin Chernenko, an outstanding personality of the Communist Party and of the Soviet state, a steadfast fighter for the ideals of communism and for peace will always be kept in the hearts of the Soviet people and of all progressive humanity.

Leadership Sends Condolences

LD111541 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1414 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Berlin 11 Mar (ADN) -- The letter of condolences of the SED Central Committee and the GDR Council of State and Council of Ministers to the CPSU Central Committee and the Supreme Soviet Presidium reads as follows:

Dear comrades: We were deeply moved to receive the painful news of the passing away of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The SED Central Committee, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers and the people of the GDR ass e the CPSU and all the Soviet people of their true sympathy.

Our fraternal Soviet party, the Soviet people, and the international communist and workers' movement have lost in Comrade Konstantin Chernenko an outstanding Marxist-Leninist, a consistent internationalist, a fiery fighter for socialism and peace. We mourn for a true friend, who acquired significant distinctions in the strengthening and deepening of fraternal relations between our parties, state, and people. We will always keep him in our memory as a communist who was guided in all his thoughts and deeds by the cause of Lenin.

His whole life and his devoted activity, whether in the Leninist Komsomol, as a combatant of the Red Army, or in leading functions in the CPSU and the Soviet state, were always linked in the closest way with the struggle of the party of Lenin for the consolidation of Soviet power, for its secure defense, and with its concern for the welfare of the working people. His activity for the creative application of Marxism-Leninism is not forgotten.

Under the leadership of the CPSU whose great political, ideological, and organizational activity he controlled since February 1984, the Soviet people made further progress in the successful realization of the resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress, in the perfecting of the advanced socialist society, the intensification of the economy, and the strengthening of the defensive capability of the Soviet Union.

With his unerring commitment to world peace, against the dangerous policy of confrontation of imperialism, Comrade Konstantin Chernenko acquired high international standing. Numerous international initiatives linked with his name demonstrate the USSR's steadfast willingness for understanding. The GDR citizens completely support the position of the Soviet people, which is marked by difficult historical experience, to do everything to save humanity from a nuclear inferno. Konstantin Chernenko's warning in the 40th year since the victory over Hitler fascism and the liberation, to counter the warmongers before a war has broken out, remains for us an obligation to intensify the struggle for the preservation of peace for the present and future generations.

Comrade Konstantin Chernenko devoted all his energy for the constant strengthening of the socialist family of peoples, the community of fraternally allied states. The comprehensive cooperation between the GDR and the USSR was purposefully developed in accord with the friendship treaty concluded on 7 October 1975. The proven militant alliance of the SED and the CPSU was forged more strongly, and our peoples move unerringly on the path of strengthening socialism and securing peace.

The members of the SED and the people of the GDR bow deeply to the dear departed. His life and his struggle will not be forgotten.

Honecker Congratulates Gorbachev

DW112010 East Berlin Television Service in German 1830 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and GDR State Council chairman, sent the following congratulatory message to Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary:

Dear Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev: On behalf of the SED Central Committee, all Communists, the GDR people, and on my own behalf, I convey to you the most cordial and fraternal greetings and congratulations.

The CPSU Central Committee elected into this highest function of Lenin's party a tested Marxist-Leninst and internationalist, a good friend and comrade who enjoys the respect and high esteem of the Communists and all working people in the GDR. The GDR and the SED will continue to be a close ally, loyal friend, and reliable companion of Lenin's country.

With all their strength, the GDR citizens support the USSR's consistent struggle, rich in initiative, for the ensuring of peace and the prevention of a nuclear catastrophe. Inspired by the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism and our people's liberation by the glorious Soviet Army, the workers in our country attain great achievements for the comprehensive strengthening of the first worker-peasant state on German soil and firm member of the socialist community.

Dear Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, we wish you much success, creative power, and good health in meeting your high responsibility as CPSU Central Committee general secretary. We are certain that under the leadership of the CPSU, the Soviet people will continue to securely advance on the road to the 27th CPSU Congress. As before, the country of Lenin will support all developments aimed at the happiness of the peoples and the peaceful future of mankind.

With communist greetings, Erich Honecker

Honecker Heads Funeral Delegation

LD121124 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1100 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Excerpt] A GDR party and state delegation led by Erich Honecker left this morning for the Soviet capital to take part in the funeral ceremonies for Konstantin Chernenko. The delegation consists of Politburo members Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Horst Sindermann, president of the People's Chamber; Joachim Herrmann and Egon Krenz, secretaries of the Central Committee; and Egon Winkelmann, GDR ambassador to the USSR.

Leaders Visit Soviet Embassy

LD111632 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1521 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Berlin, 11 Mar (ADN) -- The party and state leadership of the GDR paid their condolences today at the Soviet Embassy in Berlin on the death of Constantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. They deeply felt sympathy over the death of the outstanding leader of the Communist Party and the Soviet state, the steadfast fighter for socialism and peace, was expressed by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, to the USSR charge d'affaires to the GDR, Valentin Kopteltsev.

Together with Erich Honecker, Premier Willi Stoph, President of the People's Chamber Horst Sindermann, and other members of the party and state leadership made entries in the book of condolences.

The GDR Council of Ministers, the Presidium of the National Council of the GDR National Front, representatives of the parties united in the National Front, as well as mass organizations, deputations of other social bodies, combines, and enterprises also expressed their sympathy.

Special Politburo Session Held

LD111501 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1411 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Berlin, 11 Mar (ADN) -- At a special session today the SED Central Committee Politburo commemorated the deceased leader of the party of Lenin and the Soviet people, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State praised the life and the struggle of Konstantin Chernenko for peace and socialism. Erich Honecker mentioned the significant contribution by Konstantin Chernenko to the strengthening of the fraternal alliance between the CPSU and the SED, between the USSR and the GDR.

The activity of Konstantin Chernenko is not forgotten as an outstanding leader of the international communist and workers' movement.

The Politburo expressed the intention to continue the struggle for the strengthening and securing of the socialist community and for the strengthening of world peace for which Konstantin Chernenko worked with such devotion.

Council of Ministers Meets

LD111648 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1545 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Berlin, 11 Mar (ADN) -- In a special session today the GDR Council of Ministers commemorated the outstanding Communist, internationalist, and statesman Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers, praised the devoted commitment of Konstantin Chernenko to the ideals of communism and to the preservation of peace, as well as for the welfare of the working people of the entire world. His tireless activity for the constant deepening of the close fraternal relations between our two states will always be remembered. The Council of Ministers expressed the resolve to consistently continue the struggle for the securing of world peace, and to intensify the GDR's contribution to the comprehensive strengthening of the socialist alliance of states.

Day of Mourning Declared

LD111450 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1404 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Berlin, 11 Mar (ADN) -- The minister of the interior announces that in accordance with the resolution of the SED Central Committee, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers of the GDR, the memory of the deceased general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Konstantin Chernenko, will be honored on the day of his funeral, Wednesday 12 March 1985. All public events are to take account of the state mourning.

ADN Notes Public Response

LD112324 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1928 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Berlin, 11 Mar (ADN) -- GDR citizens displayed their sympathy over the death of Konstantin Chernenko on Monday with condolences to the Soviet Embassy in Berlin and to the Soviet consulates-general in Karl-Marx-Stadt, Leipzig, and Rostock, as well as to Soviet Army garrisons in the GDR. Workers honored the memory of the deceased CPSU Central Committee general secretary and Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman with a minute's silence at their workplaces. Visitors to the Leipzig Spring Fair showed their sympathy by entering their names in the condolence book at the Soviet pavilion.

Chairmen of parties and mass organizations conveyed their deep sympathy over Konstantin Chernenko's death in letters of condolence to the Soviet ambassador to the GDR. "We will contribute with new deeds to the strengthening of the fraternal bond between our states and peoples," the letter from the Liberal Democratic Party of Germany says.

The GDR ministers of national defense, state security, and interior have praised the life and work of the highest representative of the USSR in their Orders of The Day.

FRG ECONOMIC MINISTER BANGEMANN RECEIVED IN BERLIN

Mittag, Guest Discuss Trade

LD112239 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1937 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Berlin, 11 Mar (ADN) -- Guenter Mittag, Politburo member, SED Central Committee secretary, and deputy chairman of the GDR Council of State, received Martin Bangemann, FRG economics minister and chairman of the FDP, for a talk today in Berlin.

During the exchange of views, Guenter Mittag said trade between the GDR and the FRG is an important part of relations between the two states in accordance with the Basic Treaty. With 14.4 billion units of account in 1984, a considerable level has been reached. Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, stated at the 1985 Leipzig Fair that the GDR was prepared to further promote trade in every respect. This would also create favorable conditions for the further development of overall relations between the GDR and the FRG.

Martin Bangemann reaffirmed the FRG's intention to expand trade with the GDR and to make its contribution so that cooperation between all European states can be deepened and expanded in the interests of peace and security. He said he is looking forward with interest to his visit to the Leipzig Fair in order to brief himself personally on possibilities for the further development of trade.

Taking part in the talk for the GDR side was Gerhard Beil, member of the Council of Ministers and state secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Trade, and for the FRG side Hans Otto Braeutigam, head of the FRG's Permanent Mission in the GDR, and Dieter von Wuerzen, state secretary in the Federal Economics Ministry.

This evening, Guenter Mittag gave a dinner for Dr Martin Bangemann in the Unter den Linden Palace.

Honecker, Bangemann Confer

LD121132 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1005 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Berlin, 12 Mar (ADN) -- Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State, today received Dr Martin Bangemann, chairman of the FDP and federal minister of economic affairs of the FRG. During the meeting, Erich Honecker mentioned that the preservation of peace and the removal of the danger of war is the most important task of all people at the present time. In this, the two German states have a special responsibility. As in the past, the GDR is interested in consistently realizing the policy of peaceful coexistence and is prepared to enter into active dialogue with all states for this aim.

In this connection, he praised the Soviet-American agreement in Geneva to begin new negotiations on the whole range of nuclear and space weapons. These talks offer an opportunity to stop the arms race and prevent a nuclear inferno. In the relations between the GDR and the FRG, the primary task continues to be doing everything to ensure that war never again emanates from German soil.

In addition, Erich Honecker told Martin Bangemann that a return by the FRG to the positions of the Basic Treaty, which takes account of the existence of two German states with different political and social systems, will be helpful in further developing mutual relations at this very significant times.

In the course of exchanging views, Erich Honecker dealt with the trade and economic relations between the GDR and the FRG and evaluated the state of affairs as advantageous for both sides and as amenable to further development.

Martin Bangemann pointed out the statement of the FRG Government, supported by his party, on the inviolability of all existing borders in Europe. He believes that the statement made by Federal Chancellor Kohl has contributed to the return of a certain amount of calm in this matter. He mentioned further that the Basic Treaty is the basis of relations between the GDR and FRG.

Martin Bangemann welcomed the negotiations beginning in Geneva between the Soviet Union and the United States. The FRG and his party also support these negotiations with the aim of achieving the most real and specific results. Martin Bangemann spoke in favor of the continuation of the consultations on environmental protection. He supported all efforts which will lead to practical solutions for the participants.

It was jointly agreed that mutual relations have developed continuously since the Basic Treaty was signed.

Taking part in the talk for the GDR were Guenter Mittag, Politburo member, SED Central Committee secretary, and deputy chairman of the GDR Council of State; and State Secretary Gerhard Beil, member of the GDR Council of Ministers. On the FRG side were Hans Otto Braeutigam, chief of the FRG Permanent Mission in the GDR, and Dieter von Wuerzen, state secretary in the FRG Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs.

Bengemann 'Very Satisfied'

LD121136 Hamburg DPA in German 1022 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] East Berlin, 12 Mar (DPA) -- Federal Economics Minister Martin Bangemann (FDP) described his meeting this morning with GDR head of state and party Erich Honecker in East Berlin as constructive and substantial. Speaking to journalists, Bangemann showed himself as being very satisfied with the 1-hour discussion in the Council of State building. He had the impression that this is also true of his interlocutor, the minister said. They discussed issues of general policy, environmental protection, the improvement of youth exchanges, and the Geneva disarmament negotiations and how the two German states could accompany these positively.

Bangemann stated that he also addressed the problem of the large number of persons seeking asylum who come to Berlin and the Federal Republic via the East Berlin Schoenefeld Airport. Further negotiations are to be conducted on this subject. It was shown by the example of Sweden that the problem could be regulated.

In connection with environmental protection, no individual issues were discussed. These will take place at expert level. The GDR is clearly interested, the economics minister declared, in coming to agreements with Bonn on environmental protection, such as those which the Federal Republic has with the CSSR.

He had not addressed the issue of a visit by Honecker to the Federal Republic, Bangemann said. He is the first member of the Federal Government to meet the SED leader since Honecker's cancelled visit last autumn.

The state of intra-German trade was discussed both at his meeting with Honecker and at the meeting with Guenter Mittag, the SED Politburo member responsible for economic issues. Bangemann said he pointed out that following the meeting with Honecker, he intended visiting the Leipzig fair in order to talk there with GDR Foreign Trade Minister Horst Soelle about the structure of bilateral trade exchange and the possibilities for an improvement.

EMIGRANTS' DESIRE TO RETURN FROM FRG REPORTED

AU081045 [Editorial Report] East Berlin, NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German on 6 March on page 3 carries under the headline "Over 20,000 Former Citizens Want To Return" some 2,000 words of reports on letters from former GDR citizens who want to return to the GDR.

The reports, which take up all of page 3, are introduced by the statement that "in letters to the SED Central Committee, the State Council, the Council of Ministers, and local organs of the GDR, over 20,000 former GDR citizens have expressed their desire to return to the GDR" and that "the GDR Foreign Ministry has been instructed to examine the requests."

Various statements then follow giving the reasons for the people's desire to return, for example: "We are disappointed by conditions in the FRG." "I want to return to the GDR because I feel like a foreigner in a foreign world in the FRG"; "I am disappointed with the social insecurity in the FRG and have no job"; "We want to return because we think there is no future for us and our children in the FRG," and others.

The paper then lists ut 80 citizens by name with their profession and FRG addresses and publishes the reasons they gave for their wish to return to the GDR.

OPENING DAY ACTIVITIES AT LEIPZAG FAIR REPORTED

Honecker Leads Walkabout

LD102248 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0949 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Leipzig, 10 Mar (ADN) -- Erich Honecker, SED general secretary and GDR State Council chairman, and other members of the GDR party and state leadership made their traditional walkabout on 10 March at the start of the 1985 Leipzig Spring Fair (10-16 March) which is bringing together 9,000 exhibitors from throughout the world under the motto "For outward-looking trade and technical progress."

Those taking part include the members and candidate members of the SED Politburo, Premier Willi Stoph, People's Chamber President Horst Sindermann, Werner Felfe, Herbert Haeber, Joachim Herrmann, Werner Jarowinsky, Guenther Kleiber, Egon Krenz, Werner Krolikowski, Guenter Mittag, Guenter Schabowski, and Gerhard Schuerer.

Soelle Hosts Reception

ID111142 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2016 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Text] Leipzig, 10 Mar (ADN) -- GDR Minister of Foreign Trade Horst Soelle gave a festive reception on the conclusion of the first day of the Leipzig fair on Sunday evening in the new Town Hall. Politicians and industrial representatives held talks with SED Central Committee Politburo members and candidate members Werner Jarowinsky, Guenter Kleiber, Werner Krolikowski, and Gerhard Schuerer, as well as with other public personages in the GDR.

Horst Soelle welcomed the guests of the evening. His welcoming address in the 40th year of the victory over Hitler fascism and the liberation of the German people was for the representatives of the USSR whom he thanked for the help and the support which they had provided for the reinstitution and the renewed flourishing of the Leipzig fair. He also warmly greeted the representatives of the other states of the anti-Hitler coalition. "If the fair metropolis of the GDR has today become one of the largest and most respected in the world, then this bears witness to what the industry and the creativity of the workers of our country, in alliance with the peoples of the Soviet Union and the other socialist fraternal states are capable of achieving," the minister said. The GDR will always be a reliable partner when it is a question of opening the way for reason, realism, and international cooperation on an equal footing. The reception provided many opportunities for the exchange of views and thoughts on possibilities and prospects for economic and scientific-technological cooperation.

Those participating in the talks with Werner Jarowinsky, Guenther Kleiber, Werner Krolikowski, and Gerhard Schuerer included Angolan Minister of Industry Henrique de Carvalho dos Santos; British Trade Minister Paul Channon; Iraqi Minister of Light Industry Tariq Hamad al-Abdullah; Italian Minister of Foreign Trade Dr Nicola Capria; YAR Minister of Economy and Industry Ahmad Qa'id Barakat; and Cuban Minister of Iron and Steel Industry Marcos Lage.

Further meetings were held with Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries of the Netherlands Gerrit Braks; Romanian Minister of the Machine Tool Industry Alexandru Necula; USSR Minister for the Electrical Equipment Industry Anatoliy Mayorets, leaders of the Soviet Government delegation to the Leipzig Spring Fair; as well as Vietnamese Minister of Foreign Trade Le Khae.

Guests of the evening also included DPRK Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Pang Tac-yul and Mozambique's Daniel Gabriel, UAE Under Secretary for Electricity and Water Abdul Rahman al-Awadi; Chairman of the Board of Hoesch AG Dr Detlev Carsten Rohwedder; Chairman of the Board of Friedrich Krupp GMBH Dr Wilhelm Scheider; Chairman of the Board of Schloemann Siegmar AG Heinrich Weiss; President of the Mitsui Corporation Dr Toshikuni Yahiro; Board Director of VOeST Alpine AG Dr Klaus Czempirek; and Chairman of the USA-GDR Trade and Economic Committee Dr Jerome Ottmar.

Italian Minister's Visit 'Fruitful'

AU112037 Rome ANSA in English 1936 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] (ANSA) Leipzig, March 11 -- Italian Foreign Trade Minister Nicola Capria left Leipzig for Rome today at the end of a fruitful three-day visit to East Germany during which he visited the international trade fair here and had talks with top political and economic officials.

He received assurances that East Germany this year will increase by 60 percent its Italian imports.

The two countries also plan to bolster their economic exchanges, even at the level of small and medium-sized industries, over the coming five-year period.

The local press highlighted the visit and East German President Erich Honecker lingered long at the Italian exhibit on the fairgrounds.

Honecker will be making a trip to Rome soon but first a new five-year economic cooperation accord will be signed between the two countries.

DAILY CITES U.S. SENATOR ON WW II VETERANS MEETING

AU111210 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 8 Mar 85 p 1

[Text] Washington (ADN) -- U.S. Senator Paul Simon has praised the "trip for peace" during which war veterans and peace supporters from the United States will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the historic meeting between Soviet and U.S. soldiers at the Elbe River on 25 April. "I do not know any better way to celebrate this important anniversary than by reaffirming the solidarity and friendship between the veterans of this great event," the politician stated in the Senate.

Paul Simon expressed his support for the initiative of the U.S. war veterans which he characterized as a useful contribution to developing East-West relations aimed at preserving peace.

Senator Simon, who paid tribute to the memory of the millions that fell for the cause of peace, stressed: "Especially today it is very important that we work to create a peaceful world."

MITTAG ADDRESSES COMBINE DIRECTORS ON NEW TASKS

LD072257 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1232 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Leipzig, 7 Mar (ADN) -- A SED Central Committee seminar held today in Leipzig with directors general of combines and party organizers of the SED Central Committee focused on producing an even greater contribution to the all-round strengthening of the GDR through comprehensive intensification in preparation for the 11th SED Congress.

In his address Guenter Mittag, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, dealt with immediate tasks in the implementation of the economic strategy. The foremost principle remains to do everyting for the welfare and happiness of the people by ensuring that the policy of consolidating socialism and preserving peace is consistently implemented, he said. The main task, in its unity of economic and social policy, will continue to determine the next 5-year plan.

This is the policy which the GDR has advanced since the Eighth SED Congress for 15 years now, with an unprecendented upturn. This policy is based on the unshakable foundation of socialism and has at the same time strengthened socialism. It is of crucial importance precisely now, when the preservation and safeguarding of peace are at stake. To maintain and strengthen peace and ban the danger of war -- this is and remains the foremost task of the present, the speaker said. Our attitude is unequivocal: Now more than ever we are conducting a struggle to prevent a nuclear conflagration once and for all.

The imminent Soviet-U.S. negotiations in Geneva are, despite the complex nature of the problems to be resolved, a hope for mankind. We welcome the agreement on their taking place and fully support the Soviet Union's constructive position to resolve basic vital questions of mankind by peaceful means through negotiation and political dialogue.

We derive our political responsibility from a clear recognition of the indivisible connection between a strong socialism and a secure peace, and fight for high economic performance for the further strengthening of the GDR. The forthcoming 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitler fascism and the liberation of the German people inspires millions throughout the country to new, exemplary initiatives. It was the act of liberation by the Soviet Union, as the main force in the anti-Hitler coalition, which also opened up the chance of a new beginning for our people and we used it well, Guenter Mittag said. Socialism -- that is the GDR's present and future. A good, secure future.

Clear perspectives for the basic directions of economic development have already been mapped out. Here we are thinking primarily of the further comprehensive deepening of our cooperation with the Soviet Union, for which, as is known, we have a program extending up to the year 2000. It is now important to create the preconditions for the successes of tomorrow, Mittag said. The most important task is to resolutely promote the path of comprehensive intensification in every combine. This is the meaning and content of the new stage in the implementation of our economic strategy.

The first necessity therefore becomes making science and technology the decisive factor for a high growth in net production in each combine and thus in national income. The decisive yardstick for this is an increasing share of new products with a high use value and low manufacturing costs. Production has to be organized in such a way that new products can be manufactured in quantities that meet demand. This is what we mean by a high degree of finishing. One's own plans and results must always be measured against international standards. Second, it is necessary to conduct everywhere a struggle for high labor productivity. This demands full concentration on the use of modern technologies. In this area we require an even faster pace, especially with regard to the introduction of automated sections of production departments, including automated construction and preparation of production.

Third, it is necessary to continue the struggle to reduce the input of energy and materials. In this sphere, too, we are only beginning to open up great reserves. We thus adhere firmly to one of the basic theses of our economic strategy: Reducing production input is and remains the main source of reducing costs in industry. The steady reduction of prime costs is economy per se.

Fourth, the new stage of economic strategy demands a further improvement in managerial work. Here, too, a crucial factor applies: The point at issue is to do everything in each combine to most effectively shape the cycle of intensively extended reproduction in all its stages. This, of course, includes the daily struggle to fulfill the main indices of the plan -- net production, profit, and products and services for the population as well as for export -- in every single enterprise.

Guenter Mittag also said: This year's results are, of course, of special importance: The better they are, the more favorable they will show in the successful balance sheet of the implementation of the decisions of the 10th congress. At the same time they form the firm basis of the fundamental decisions which the 11th SED Congress will reach on the further path of shaping advanced socialist society in the GDR. Last year's results show that intensively extended reproduction is today the fundamental basis for growth, and that a change of major significance was achieved as a result.

This is demonstrated by the very considerable 5.5 percent rate of increase in the national income, which also represents the highest growth of national income in absolute terms, amounting to M11.7 billion. The decisive share in this was produced by industry, whose net production rose 8.5 percent. Linked to this was a 7.7 percent increase in labor productivity, which in 1984 was well above the annual average increase of 5.7 percent between 1981 and 1983.

Particularly notable is the fact that we are achieving this growth in production with a simultaneous reduction of per unit input of economically important energy sources, raw materials, and materials, by an average 6 percent per year between 1981 and 1984. This strong economic performance guaranteed that our policy for the welfare of the people was carried out, with important results also in 1984. This is testified to by the 207,034 newly constructed and modernized apartments, and the 4.1 percent increase in retail trade turnover, the 4 percent increase in real income, the 4 percent increase in the volume of services, and other social results. We were all able to note with pleasure and satisfaction that 1984 was the year of greatest achievement so far in the GDR's history.

What was achieved in the GDR was met with great international respect, Mittag continued. Precisely in these times of harsh class conflicts, the GDR proved the vitality and superiority of socialism, the dynamism and continuity of its development. The inviolability of the GDR was further strengthened. It proves itself as a stable cornerstone of peace and socialism in Europe. The collectives of combines and enterprises devote all their strength in the service of this good and noble cause. They all recognize that it is possible through high economic performance, for socialism to further secure peace.

The task in 1985 is to realize in combines even greater achievements than the previous year in all the decisive economic indices, building on the standards achieved. Guenter Mittag analyzed in detail the generally good results in the fulfillment of the plan in the first 2 months of 1985. He praised in particular the achievements of the miners, energy workers, railmen, and the numerous volunteers in coal mining.

Mittag also praised the long-term program of GDR-USSR cooperation in science, technology, and production until the year 2000, as a historic step toward the further deepening of the integration of the two countries' economies. The main directions of cooperation which were agreed demonstrate the high degree of agreement between our parties in assessing the basic direction of further intensification.

The speaker said the development of combines in the GDR represents a new, higher stage in the process of the socialization of labor in socialism. In conclusion Mittag stated: What we have achieved strengthens us in our belief in the ability and capacity of the working class, under the leadership of its party, to fulfill its historic mission under all circumstances. The preparation of the 11th SED Congress has introduced a new phase in our party's work. It is a time of new, important initiatives for the further strengthening of our socialist GDR and thus for the preservation of peace.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN REICHELT HOLDS TALKS IN ALGIERS

LD080630 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2044 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Algiers, 7 Mar (ADN) -- Algerian Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi and GDR Deputy Chairman Hans Reichelt, minister for environmental protection and water management, met in Algiers today and discussed further relations in the political, economic, scientific, and technical spheres.

Proceeding from the goals of the Algerian 5-year plan, the discussions centered on industrial cooperation, increased cooperation in agriculture and water management, and vocational training. Both sides described the further development of cooperation as an important contribution to the safeguarding of peace.

Meets With Algerian Ministers

LD082111 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1909 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Algiers, 8 Mar (ADN) -- The GDR Government delegation headed by Vice Premier Hans Reichelt, environmental protection and water management minister, which attended the opening of the 21st International Fair of Algiers, was seen off Friday by Mohamed Aberkane, Algerian Vice Minister of External Trade.

Minister Reichelt also met today with Mohamed Rouighi, minister of irrigation, environment, and forestry. The two ministers discussed prospects for cooperation in water management and concurred in noting that favorable opportunities exist, though new avenues should also be found, for expanding exchanges.

In a talk with Agricultural Minister Merbah Kasdi, Algeria's agricultural projects during the Second 5-Year Plan and a deepening of cooperation were discussed. A talk with Interior Minister M'hamed Yala also dealt with expanding cooperation.

BRIEFS

BORDER COOPERATION WITH POLAND -- On 6 March in Berlin the chairman of the Permanent Commission for Infrastructure on both sides of the Oder and Neisse of the GDR-PPR Committee for Economic and Scientific-Technological Cooperation, Waldemar Harz, deputy minister for bezirk-administered industry and food industry, and B. Lysak, state secretary in the Polish Ministry for Administration and Territorial Management, discussed the level of cooperation between the GDR and Poland in the border area. They agreed that cooperation has developed well in the fields of construction, environmental protection, health care, and culture as well as in the exchange of consumer goods, and that there are good prerequisites for expanding it. [Summary] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 7 Mar 85 p 2 AU]

FRG-GDR CHURCH DECLARATION -- In a declaration, the Action Token of Atonement of the GDR Churches and the Action Token of Atonement/Peace Services of the FRG have called 8 May 1945 the day of liberation from fascism. In the declaration the two organizations express their support for an East-West dialogue on all levels and raise the sacrifices made by the anti-Hitler coalition for the liberation of the peoples of Europe. They also appeal to those who were allies at that time to do everything to prevent an expansion of the arms race to space and to overcome it on earth and to enter a new alliance despite different social systems. The declaration also stresses the importance of making German soil free from mass destruction weapons, and appeals to the governments of the GDR and the FRG to support disarmament initiatives. [Summary] [East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 7 Mar 85 p 2 AU]

REACTION TO CHERNENKO DEATH, SUCCESSION REPORTED

Death Announced

LD111207 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1103 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, has died at the age of 74.

Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko was born in a village called Bolshaya Tyes in the Krasnoyarsk district. At a very early age he became acquainted with the hard work of peasants. He worked for kulaks as a day laborer. Military service represented for him a rich new way of life. In 1930 he joined the Red Army and served as a border guard until 1933. His life became totally identified with the party even there. He served as secretary of the party cell of a border guard sub-unit. On completion of his military service and for many years, right up to 1943, he carried out party work in the border region of Krasnoyarsk. No matter where he worked he proved to be a talented organizer, a convincing conveyor of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism, and a consistent fighter struggling for the realization of the party's policies.

Between 1943 and 1945 he studied at the party academy of the CPSU Central Committee. From 1945 he served as secretary of the party committee of (?Penza) Oblast. In 1948 he led the agitation and propaganda department in the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee. In this capacity he contributed with great vigor to the economic and cultural development of the Republic and to the communist education of the workers.

Further stages of his career: In 1956 he was elected to the Secretariat of the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee. In the same year he joined in the work of the CPSU Central Committee. From 1960 he led the Secretariat of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR. Between 1966 and 1971 he was an alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee. In March 1971 he became a member of the Central Committee at the 24th Congress of the CPSU and in 1976 he became Central Committee secretary. In 1977 he was elected an alternate member of the Politburo and a year later he became a member of the Politburo.

Konstantin Chernenko was also a deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and of the parliament of the Russian Federation. After the death of Yuriy Andropov on 13 February 1984, the Central Committee appointed K. Chernenko to the head of the party, at the recommendation of the Politburo. Soon after this, on 4 March 1984, the newly elected Soviet parliament elected Konstantin Chernenko president of the Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Working in the Politburo and Secretariat of the CPSU, and then as its general secretary, Konstantin Chernenko did much for the development and consolidation of the Leninist-style leadership of the party and state, for the working style characterized by a profound understanding of the key issues of social development and by a realistic approach to the results achieved and the tasks remaining to be solved. Konstantin Chernenko had an outstanding role in formulating the unified concept of the CPSU which has determined its theoretical work. He wrote several scientific works about the leading role of the party in the Soviet state and on the development of socialist democracy. Konstantin Chernenko, who in 1975 took part in the closing stages of the Helsinki conference as a member of the Soviet delegation, was most active in helping formulate the strategic direction of the peaceful foreign policy of the USSR. His international activities were permeated with the conviction that the threat of nuclear war can be averted, that there is no rational alternative to the peaceful coexistence of countries with different social systems, and to the resolution of disputed issues by means of negotiations.

Konstantin Chernenko was decorated on several occasions as a recognition of his outstanding work in the service of the USSR with the title Hero of Socialist Labor, with the Lenin Order, and with the Order of Merit of the Red Banner of Labor.

We Hungarians also had an opportunity to get to know him personally. He was a member of the Soviet party and government delegation which visited our country in May 1979.

Funeral Arrangements Noted

LD111414 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1300 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Excerpt] Konstantin Chernenko is dead. The CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and the Soviet Government announced that Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, departed at the age of 74 on 10 March after a grave illness.

Konstantin Chernenko will be buried at Red Square on Wednesday, 13 March, at 1300 hours Moscow time.

A commission to organize the funeral has been set up under the chairmanship of Mikhail Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Chernenko is lying in state today in the Hall of Columns of the House of Trade Unions. A 3-day period of mourning has been declared in the USSR.

Day of Mourning Proclaimed

LD111842 Budapest MTI in English 1804 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Budapest, March 11 (MTI) -- The Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic has declared March 13, the day of the funeral of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, the outstanding personality of the Soviet Union and the international workers' movement, a day of national mourning.

The state flag is to be half-masted with military honours at the Lajos Kossuth Square, in front of the parliament building. Mourning flags will be put on public buildings and institutions, and there will be no music and entertainment at restaurants and public premises.

Leader Condolences

LD111551 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Janos Kadar, Pal Losonczi, and Gyorgy Lazar have expressed their condolences in a telegram sent to the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Council of Ministers on the death of Konstantin Chernenko. We now quote the telegram:

The MSZMP Central Committee, the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, the Council of Ministers and our entire nation have learned with deep shock of the death of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. We convey our deepest condolences to the CPSU Central Committee, the CPSU Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Government, the fraternal Soviet people, and the family of the deceased. We share in their deep mourning.

The Soviet people, the international communist and workers' movement, and progressive mankind have suffered a great loss. Comrade Chernenko, with his responsible and self-sacrificing activities at the head of the CPSU and the Soviet state, contributed successfully during his whole life to realization of the Leninist policy of the CPSU, and to the formulation and implementation of the tasks aimed at perfecting the USSR's developed socialist society.

In Comrade Konstantin Chernenko we are also mourning the passing of a consistent internationalist who gained great merit in strengthening the unity of the socialist community, in the realization of our common ideals, and in advancement of the causes of communism and peace.

We greatly appreciate the attention and care which Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko devoted to deepening our parties' internationalist ties, to fostering the unbreakable friendship between the Hungarian and Soviet peoples, and to developing Hungarian-Soviet multifaceted cooperation.

The MSZMP and our entire nation sympathize in this hour of grief with the CPSU and the fraternal Soviet people. Remaining faithful to the ideas of proletarian internationalism, we continue to safeguard and carefully foster the friendship between our countries and our peoples and will continue to do everything that is in the interests of further development of our fruitful cooperation -- to the benefit of our peoples, world peace, and international security.

It is our conviction that the CPSU will continue in the future its unbroken progress along the Leninist path, and that it will serve with all its strength the causes of socialism, social progress and peace, for which our true comrade and friend, Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, worked tirelessly during his entire life, the telegram of condolences from the Hungarian leaders says.

Kadar to Attend Funeral

LD120947 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0900 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] A Hungarian delegation has left for Moscow to participate in Konstantin Chernenko's funeral tomorrow. Julia Tardos reports from Ferihegy Airport:

A Hungarian party and state delegation, led by Janos Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, left for Moscow shortly before 0945 in order to take part in the funeral of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, the outstanding statesman and outstanding personality of the international communist and workers' movement. Also in the delegation are Pal Losonczi, member of the MSZMP Politburo and president of the Presidential Council, and Sandor Rajnai, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and our country's ambassador to the USSR, who will join the delegation in Moscow.

Present at Ferihegy Airport when the delegation departed were: Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Gyorgy Aczel, Ferenc Havasi, Mihaly Korom, Karoly Nemeth, Miklos Ovari, secretaries of the Central Committee and members of the Politburo; Matyas Szuros, secretary of the Central Committee; Rezsoe Trautmann, deputy president of the Presidential Council; Istvan Horvath, minister of the interior; Peter Varkonyi, foreign minister; members of the Central Committee; Gyula Horn, head of the Foreign Affairs Department of the Central Committee; and Minister of Transport Lajos Urban. Also present here at Ferihegy Airport was Ivan Aboyimov, temporary charge d'affairs of the USSR's Embassy in Hungary.

Kadar Congratulates Gorbachev

LD111927 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Janos Kadar has sent a telegram of greetings to Mikhail Gorbachev on the occasion of Gorbachev's election to the position of CPSU General Secretary. On behalf of the MSZMP Central Committee and on my own behalf, too, reads the telegram, I frankly congratulate and express my comradely good wishes to you on the occasion of your election as CPSU secretary general. We are sure that under your leadership the CPSU and its Central Committee will continue further on the Leninist road and that the Soviet workers will achieve further great results in the perfecting the USSR's advanced socialist society.

The unbroken peace policy of the Soviet Union and its steady efforts to realize the principles of peaceful coexistence provide a sure backing for the forces struggling for peace in the world and for the peace-loving peoples of the world. It is our firm conviction that the Soviet Union and the countries of the community in the future, too, will serve successfully the universal cause of peace and social progress.

On behalf of Hungarian Communists and the Hungarian people building socialism I again express the good wishes which come from the depth of our hearts. I wish many successes to you in your responsible activities for further enlargement of the successes of the Soviet people, for the materialization of our common socialist goals, and for world peace. I assure you, the CPSU, and the fraternal Soviet people that the MSZMP and the working Hungarian people -- just as before -- will in the future, too, do everything to further consolidate the unbreakable friendship between our peoples and to strengthen the many-sided cooperation between our countries, reads the Janos Kadar telegram of greetings to Mikhail Gorbachev.

KOROM MEETS PZPR ADMINISTRATION DELEGATION

LD082039 Budapest MTI in English 1759 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Budapest, March 8 (MTI) -- A delegation of Polish party workers, headed by Kazimierz Cypryniak, head of the Organization Department of the PUWP CC, visited Hungary from March 6 to 8 on the invitation of the HSWP Central Committee.

The delegation met Mihaly Korom, member of the HSWP Political Committee and secretary of the Central Committee.

The delegation, which held talks with Peter Varga, head of the Public Administration Department at the HSWP CC, Lajor Papp, chairman of the Council Office of the Council of Ministers, and Bela Molnar, secretary of the National Council of the Patriotic People's Front, studied the preparations for the parliamentary elections.

REACTION TO CHERNENKO DEATH, GORBACHEV ELECTION

Condolence Telegram

LD111820 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] In connection with the death of Konstantin Chernenko, General Wojciech Jaruzelski and Henryk Jablonski sent a telegram of condolences to the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Council of Ministers.

Comrade Konstantin Chernenko, the telegram reads, fought indefatigably for peace and international security, he made a generally recognized contribution to the struggle to protect the human race from the threat of atomic annihilation, and his disarmament initiatives met with respect and appreciation throughout the world.

Congratulations Message to Gorbachev

LD120814 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0600 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Wojciech Jaruzelski and Henryk Jablonski have sent a message of congratulations to the newly-elected Secretary General of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev. They expressed full conviction that fraternal and allied bonds between our parties and states, and friendship of our nations will continue to develop favorably.

Presidium Pays Tribute

LD112227 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2200 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] The government Presidium has been in session. In connection with the death of Konstantin Chernenko, the government Presidium expressed deep sorrow and regret, and paid tribute to his memory. The merits of the leader of the Soviet nation in the cause of consolidating peace and international security, his personal contribution to development of the socialist community, and his friendly internationalist approach toward Poland were stressed.

Later, issues of agriculture and food economy were discussed, including preparations for spring field work.

Leaders Sign Condolence Book

LD121011 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0900 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Wojciech Jaruzelski and Henryk Jablonski have signed the book of condolences at the Soviet Embassy in Warsaw.

Flags To Be Lowered

LD111517 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1500 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] In connection with the death of Konstantin Chernenko, the Council of State has decided that from today until the day of the funeral inclusive, Polish state flags will be lowered to half mast on the official buildings of the state authorities and administration.

Chernenko Contribution to Peace

LD111731 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1300 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Report by Andrzej Walatek and Zdzislaw Stankiewicz]

[Text] [Stankiewicz] We have learned of the death of the Soviet leader, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Supreme Soviet Presidium since 13 February last year. His death occured at a very important moment, on the eve of the beginning of the Soviet-American disarmament talks, the talks of which he was one of the main initiators. Konstantin Chernenko, despite his long illness, was a consistent executor of the Leninist principles of Soviet foreign policy.

[Walatek] Yes, first of all, this was reflected by the implementation of the fundamental principle of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems. As you have correctly noted, Konstantin Chernenko was one of the chief initiators of the resumption of the disarmament talks with the United States. I would also add here that from the beginning of his assumption of the post of general secretary he was an advocate of improving relations with that country. It is enough to recall his talk with George Bush, vice president of the United States, in February last year. Konstantin Chernenko then emphasized the necessity of resuming a constructive dialogue between the two powers. This was the main theme in all his speeches and publications.

[Stankiewicz] Let me remind you that one of the last acts in his consistently peaceful activity was a reply to a letter addressed to him by American World War II veterans.

[Walatek] Yes, this letter contains the whole essence of the Soviet policy concerning the United States. If you allow me, I shall quote some fragments which, in my opinion, reflect this policy. Konstantin Chernenko wrote that the years of war had proved that although there are different socioeconomic systems in the USSR and the United States, in difficult times these countries were able to unite against the common enemy in the name of permament peace. Soviet-American cooperation, Konstantin Chernenko wrote, is indispensible (?today) to man's continued existence on the earth. At the same time he emphasized that no differences should be an obstacle to carrying on a dialogue because the Soviet Union supports cooperation with the United States on matters of war and peace, in other words saving mankind from the nuclear threat.

And what is very significant -- I still refer to the letter -- Konstantin Chernenko wrote: Not everything in this respect, however, depends on the Soviet Union and her goodwill to reach an agreement, because a corresponding willingness by the other side is also indispensable.

[Stankiewicz] I think that this statement best characterizes the activity of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and leader of the Supreme Soviet; it is brief, but ever so important for the preservation of peace in the world.

Chernenko's Life, Work Reviewed

LD111456 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1300 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, died at 1920 yesterday following a grave illness.

Konstantin Chernenko was born 24 September 1911 in village of Bolshaya Tes, Novoselovo district, Krasnoyarsk territory. He became member of the CPSU in 1931.

In all posts with which he was entrusted by the party he showed great organizational skills, adherence to the party principles, and faithfulness to the great work of Lenin and the ideals of communism.

Konstantin Chernenko was an author of many scientific works on current issues concerning consolidation of the party's leading role in the life of Soviet society, perfecting the style and methods of work of the party and the state, and the development of socialist democracy.

Konstantin Chernenko was awarded for his great services to the fatherland the title of Hero of Socialist Labor, the Lenin Medal and the Medal of the Red Banner of Labor. He was also awarded the Lenin Prize. Konstantin Chernenko received the highest state distinctions of the socialist countries.

WARSAW REPORTS ARREST OF KPN ACTIVISTS

LD111851 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1800 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] According to the report of a voivodship prosecutor, within the framework of an investigation being carried out, charges were presented and preventive measures applied towards participants of an illegal meeting of the so-called Political Council of the Confederation of Independent Poland [KPN] who were detained by security service officials. The following people, accused of leading an illegal association, which, using the name of the Confederation of Independent Poland, has as its aims a crime leading, inter alia, to provoking public unrest, were arrested: Leszek Moczulski, Krzysztof Krol, Andrzej Szomanski, Adam Slomka and Dariusz Wojcik. The investigation accomplished, preventive measures comprising civic militia supervision were applied towards Zygmunt (?Lynyk) and Zygmunt Rybarkiewicz.

So far it has been established that the group of people, including the suspects, undertook a decision to resume the KPN's activity and began actions aimed at provoking public unrest. Some of those people were sentenced by courts in the past and benefited from last year's amnesty.

In the couse of detention on 9 March, security service officials seized a large quantity of illegal publications and other evidence of criminal activity.

TRADE UNIONS SEEN AS PARTNERS IN ECONOMY

LD101721 Warsaw PAP Maritime Press Service in Polish 1200 GMT 10 Mar 85

[Excerpts] Recent days have brought an intertwining of several economically and politically interesting phenomena with the issue of food price increases. As we have already reported, none of the government-proposed options for increases were carried out, in the face of the firm stance by the trade unions. The government immediately announced that the increases will be spread over a period of time and will apply to a smaller range of articles than initially planned.

National Trade Union Accord [OPZZ] Chairman Alfred Miodowicz, visiting industrial plants in Lodz shortly afterwards, got an ovation from women textile workers. In Zgierz, too, weavers and textile workers loudly expressed their appreciation of the OPZZ, which now represents more than 5 million members, for its defense of working people's interests. Meanwhile, almost simultaneously, it was announced that some increases are already in force, as of 4 March. The rest will be spread out, but only over the next few months, so it was sort of a surprise.

It might seem then that we are dealing here with some bizarre contradictions. The trade unions are defending the interests of working people and protesting against the increases; the authorities not only agree with this standpoint, but in a sense support it and at the same time go their own way as regards price issues.

Put briefly, the government's standpoint is that without the most rapid settlement of at least some of the price problems we will continue to have galloping inflation, bare shelves in the shops, and no prospects for eliminating the specter of lines. If the increases were postponed, the gap in the state budget, already 136 million zlotys this year, would widen.

Agreed, say the trade unionists, but are increases the only panacea for improving the state of our market? Do they have to be so drastic and the financial and social compensation so meager?

Indeed, it could have been otherwise, if.... The discussion on that "if", one currently in progress between the trade unionists and the government, seems to be bringing about a rapprochement of both sides on basic issues. Both sides know well that if our management methods were streamlined quickly and efficiency radically increased, [word indistinct] increases, inevitable from the economic viewpoint, could be very slight and the assets for evening up wages and social benefits greater.

The reborn trade unions -- and this is only natural -- are already and will be to an even greater extent difficult partners for the authorities. They will not always agree with the authorities on everything. They have their own point of view on many issues and their own concepts for solving pressing problems. That is how the government sees them, too. But at the same time it wants to have them as a partner in solving those fundamental problems we have mentioned and on whose solution the state of the market, prices, and working people's standard of living in effect depend.

KUCZA HOLDS TALKS IN LIBYA, TUNISIA

LD081328 Warsaw PAP in English 1130 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Tripoli, Tunis, March 7 -- Poland's Foreign Vice-Minister Ernest Kucza has stayed in Libya and Tunisia at the invitation from the respective ministries for political consultations with his counterparts.

In Libya, both sides reviewed the state of and prospects for a many sided Polish-Libyan cooperation and exchanged views on current international issues, putting the main stress on the situation in the Arab world.

In Tunisia the sides examined possibilities of further developing Polish-Tunisian relations, especially in economy. The sides concentrated on the exchange of views and evaluations of the situation in Europe and in the Arab world.

Vice-Minister Kucza also met with deputy secretary general of the Arab League A. Omran and held talks with head of the political department at the Palestine Liberation Organisation F. Qaddumi. Both meetings focused on the current situation in the Middle East and in the Palestinian movement.

CEAUSESCU TO LEAD DELEGATION TO CHERNENKO FUNERAL

Chernenko's Death Announced

AU111410 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1400 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] According to TASS, the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Council of Ministers of the USSR have announced that Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, passed away on 10 March after serious suffering.

Ceausescu Cables CPSU

AU111848 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1800 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu sent the following telegram to the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium:

I have leanred with profound sorrow of the death of Comrade Konstanin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. On behalf of the RCP Central Committee, the State Council and Government of the SR of Romania, the Romanian people, and myself, personally, I extend to the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and the Soviet Communists and peoples most profound condolences for the heavy loss they suffered with the passing away of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko.

Comrade Konstantin Chernenko's personality and long revolutionary activity are well known in our country. Comrade Konstantin Chernenko was an outstanding militant of the CPSU and the state, who devoted his life to implementing the CPSU policy of building socialism and communism in the Soviet Union. In the highly responsible functions entrusted to him by the party -- including the position of CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in the last part of his life -- Comrade Konstantin Chernenko made a great contribution to drafting and implementing the domestic and foreign policy of the Soviet party and state and improving the developed socialist society in the USSR and the programs for the fatherland's comprehensive socioeconomic development. He also worked for the triumph of the cause of international peace, detente, and cooperation and for attaining the vital aspirations of peoples to prevent a nuclear war, halt the arms race, forbid the militarization of the outer space, reduce nuclear weapons until their final elimination from Europe and the world, and promote disarmament and security in the world.

The cable further reads: In the period when Comrade Konstantin Chernenko was at the helm of the Soviet party and state, the traditional Romanian-Soviet relations of friendship and comprehensive cooperation have been raised to higher levels; party-state ties have intensified; and economic, scientific-technological, and other kinds of cooperation have expanded. In this respect, my meeting and talks with Comrade Konstantin Chernenko in June 1984, as well as the agreements reached, marked a very important point in strengthening Romanian-Soviet friendship and cooperation.

We express the firm conviction that relations between the RCP and CPSU and between Romania and the USSR will continue to develop in the future, too, to the benefit and in the interest of our friendly peoples and of the cause of socialism and peace in the world.

Sharing in the great sorrow experienced at this difficult time by the Soviet Communists and people, we extend to you, dear comrades, our sentiments of profound compassion. We are convinced that the CPSU will continue to take energetic steps to accelerate the USSR's progress along the road of socialism and communism, attain the Soviet people's aspirations for well-being, happiness, and progress, and ensure the triumph of peace and understanding among peoples.

At the end of the telegram addressed to the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu asked that heartfelt condolences be extended to the mourning family.

Gorbachev Election Reported

AU111905 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1800 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] An extraordinary plenum of the CPSU Central Committee was held in Moscow today. The plenum unanimously elected Mikhail Gorbachev to the position of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, TASS reports.

Delegation To Attend Funeral

AU111847 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1800 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] The RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee under the chairmanship of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, met today in connection with the death of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The Political Executive Committee kept a moment of silence in memory of Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko.

The Political Executive Committee decided that a party-state delegation led by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the SR of Romania, will participate in Comrade Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's funeral. The day of the funeral, 13 March, has been declared a day of national mourning. On that day, the radio and televison stations, as well as artistic institutions will present appropriate programs.

MANESCU MEETS SYRIAN PREMIER IN DAMASCUS

AU112024 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1950 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Damascus, AGERPRES 11/3/1985 -- Manea Manescu, vice-president of the State Council of Romania, now on a visit to the Syrian Arab Republic, met with the prime minister of that country, 'Abd al-Rauf al-Kasm. A survey waa made of the current stage of bilateral relations, satisfaction being shown at the broad development of ties of friendship and cooperation between Romania and Syria in all fields of activity of mutual interest.

Stress was laid on the special importance of the meetings between RCP General Secretary and Romania's President Nicolae Ceausescu and the Secretary-General of the CC of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and President of the Syrian Arab Republic, Hafiz al-Asad.

During the interview, analysis was made of the current stage in the development of economic relations as well as of the ways and means of further stepping up commercial exchanges and deepening cooperation in production.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE HELD IN BUCHAREST

Ceausescu Addresses Delegates

Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 8 Mar 85 pp 1, 3

[Speech by Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu at the opening of the National Womens Conference in Bucharest on 7 March]

[Text] Esteemed comrades: It gives me special pleasure to extend warm, revolutionary greetings and best wishes to the National Womens Conference and to you, the participants in this important forum of our workers revolutionary democracy on behalf of the RCP Central Committee, the State Council and government, and on my own behalf. (loud applause, cheers; long chants of "Ceausescu-Romania, our esteem and pride!")

On the occasion of 8 March -- International Womens Day -- I also want to extend from this high forum warmest congratulations to all women in our homeland on our behalf for their activity and the important contribution they are making, together with all our people, to implementing the domestic and foreign policy of our party and state, to Socialist Romania's progress and flourishing, and to its free, independent, and sovereign development. (loud applause, cheers; chants of "Ceausescu and the people")

The National Womens Conference is taking place shortly after the 13th party congress, which has adopted decisions of the greatest importance for Romania's development in the third stage of implementing the program of building a comprehensively developed socialist society and Romania's advance toward communism, and which set forth a large-scale program aimed at the country's socioeconomic development in the 1986-90 period and until the year 2000. (loud, prolonged applause) This program was recently adopted unanimously by the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front [SDUF] Congress as an electoral platform of the SUDF in the 17 March elections and as a program of work and struggle for all our people.

The National Council of Women and the women's councils and commissions have the special responsibility of uniting the efforts of the masses of women in towns and villages and implementing this program. The county womens' meetings and conferences that have taken place throughout the country discussed the goals and guidelines set forth by the party in plans and programs on our homeland's socioeconomic development and on constantly improving our people's level of civilization. This national conference should discuss -- in a spirit of great responsibility and in a critical and self-critical manner -- the activity carried out so far by women's organizations, and should establish, on this basis, tangible measures and actions to ensure a powerful mobilization of the millions of women in all sectors in implementing the policy of socialist construction and the historical decisions adopted by the 13th party congress, which open up excellent prospects for our homeland's socioeconomic development, ensure a strengthened national independence and sovereignty, and ensure Romania's elevation to higher and higher peaks of civilization, well-being, and progress. (loud applause and cheers; long chants of "Ceausescu and the people!")

Esteemed comrades, at the 13th party congress and the Third SDUF Congress I referred at length to the great achievements registered by our people during the years of socialist construction and I examined the activity carried out to implement the provisions of the current 1981-85 5-Year Plan. Here I want to stress that only by resolutely implementing the party policy have our people been able to fundamentally change -- in a historically short period -- our country's overall image.

Romania has turned into a modern agro-industrial state with a powerful industry and socialist agriculture in full development. Compared with 1945, industrial output has increased more than 100 times and the national revenue 32 times. The intensive development of the national economy, of the forces of production, and the establishment of new production and social relations have brought about a revolutionary change in the class structure of the Romanian society, the flourishing of science, education, and culture, and a constant improvement in our people's standard of living -- the supreme goal of our party's policy and the essence of the comprehensively developed socialist society which we are successfully building in Romania. (loud, prolonged applause)

The great achievements registered thus far in all areas and the overall process of socialist development in our homeland clearly illustrate the correctness of the policy promoted by our Communist Party, which is firmly guided by the revolutionary concept of scientific socialism and dialectical and historic materialism and which resolutely applies the generally valid truths to the concrete conditions in Romania. These historic achievements are the result of the dedicated activity carried out by the working people in our homeland -- within the ranks of which women hold an important place -- aimed at unswervingly implementing the party policy and the program of building a comprehensively developed socialist society and Romania's advance toward communism. (loud applause; long chants of "Ceausescu-RCP!" and "Ceausescu and the people!")

For all these great achievements, I want to extend warmest congratulations to the millions of women who are working diligently and with dedication in factories and plants; in fields, institutes of science and culture; and health care, education and other socioeconomic areas to all working people in our homeland and to all our people, together with the wish to win new and greater victories in their future activity of elevating our homeland to new heights of civilization and progress! (loud, prolonged applause; long chants of "Ceausescu-Romania, our esteem and pride!")

Esteemed comrades, the profound changes regarding the life and role of women in our society hold an important place in the great revolutionary changes that have occurred in our country during the years of socialist construction.

One of the fundamental achievements of our socialist system is ensuring full equality of rights for all our homeland's citizens and, within this framework, ensuring complete equality for women, increasing the role and position of women in our country's overall socioeconomic activity, and ensuring their promotion and assertion in all areas. Facts and reality demonstrate that today women are a great dynamic force in the Romanian socialist society. Women's contribution to the overall material and cultural activity in our country is based on their high proportion in our country's active population. Today women account for almost 40 percent of the total working personnel, that is, more than 3 million, as compared to only 1 million 20 years ago. Of great significance is the increase in the proportion of women in industry, that is, from 26.5 percent in 1965 to 41.5 percent in 1984. A high female labor force is noted not only in traditional branches such as the garment industry and the textile industry -- where they represent some 80 percent -- but also in new branches that have considerably developed in the general process of modernizing the Romanian industry. Their proportion in electronics and automation is 50 percent; in chemistry, almost 40 percent; and in machine-building, almost 30 percent. At the same time, the proportion of women in science has increased from 32 percent in 1965 to almost 43 percent in 1984. The proportion of women in culture, education, and art is more than 65 percent of the total personnel active in this area, while in health care they represent three-quarters of the total work force. In agriculture -- the second most important branch of our national economy -- the proportion of women amounts to some 60 percent of the total manpower.

The impressive presence of women in all areas is coupled with their intensive participation in the political activity and by their promotion to management positions. Today more than 1 million women -- that is, three times as many women as 20 years ago -- are active in the RCP -- the leading political force in our society. The number of women in the party Central Committee has increased accordingly. Of the total number of 446 members and candidate members of the party Central Committee, 126 are women. More than 400 women are active in the country party committee bureaus, that is, some 40 percent of the total members of those bureaus. In the upcoming March 17 election, of the 369 constituencies, women are running for the seat of deputy in the Grand National Assembly in 133 electoral districts. The number of women running for the position of deputy to the county, municipal, town, and communal people's councils is more than 40 percent of the total candidates of deputies to the local state power bodies. More than 16,000 women are active within the working people's councils and some 22,000 in the management councils of the agricultural production cooperatives. More than 2,300 women hold the position of director or other management positions in leading the economic activity in enterprises and industrial centrals.

Within the framework of the general policy of improving the working people's level of professional and political training, our socialist state ensures broad opportunities for women so that they are able to acquire the most modern knowledge in all areas, to constantly improve their level of knowledge in technology, politics, and culture, a fact that ensures an increasingly broader assertion of women's creative capabilities and aptitudes. There are women everywhere today. They are actively participating in all areas, together with the rest of the working people, in implementing the programs of the country's economic and cultural development and in achieving all goals set forth by the party to ensure Romania's development along the road of socialism and communism.

One can justifiably state that there is no area without active women and that we would not have been able to register the great achievements without women's active participation! (loud, prolonged applause, cheers; long chants of "Ceausescu-RCP!" and "Ceausescu and the people!")

Proceeding from these facts -- which cannot be denied by any one -- one can justifiably say that ensuring full equality of rights for the masses of women and the creation of proper conditions for their assertion in all areas constitutes one of the greatest achievements of socialism and of the comprehensively developed socialist society we are building in Romania.

Current realities show that in no capitalist country -- not even in the most developed one -- do women enjoy such rights or possibilities of asserting themselves. A report by the Ministry for Social Affairs in Austria stressed recently that in that country women earn on average 30-40 percent less than men for the same work. Statistics in the same country show that at this point almost half the number of jobless in Austria are women. In the United States, where 51 percent of the country's populace are women, women's wages are 40 percent lower than those of men for the same work. According to a report of the labor statistics bureau, the income of a U.S. woman with an academical degree is, on average, equal to that of a man with only a third-grade education.

The same situation is encountered regarding women's participation in political activity. Of the 535 members in Congress -- the U.S. supreme legislative forum -- only 24 are women. In France, although more than half of the population entitled to vote are women, women hold only 4.7 percent of the seats in the National Assembly and Senate of that country. The same can be said about the promotion of women to management positions in the socio-economic activity in that country. A study made last year by a U.S. magazine shows that in 500 large enterprises in the United States only one single woman holds a highly responsible position.

All these facts very clearly demonstrate the discrimination that exists in capitalist society regarding women's situation; they show the inequality and lack of rights that profoundly affect the existence of the broad masses of women and the working masses in general in a system based on exploitation and oppression. What kind of human rights are ensured in a society where half of the population -- women -- are in such a position?

Our society is proud of the fact that it has been able to ensure for women a dignified place among the ranks of the builders of material goods and cultural assets, a position fully equal to that of men, with real possibilities for women to assert themselves in political, economic, and social activities and in society and the family. This clearly demonstrates that only when exploitation and oppression, and the system based on antagonistic classes are eliminated, when people truly master their destiny in socialism, only then can one ensure real equality for women, their effective participation in the country's sociopolitical activity, and their participation in the society's, the country's leadership in general. (loud applause, cheers; chants of "Ceausescu--RCP!" and "Ceausescu and the people!")

Only in a society in which inequality and oppression have been eliminated completely and definitively can one speak of truly ensuring man's fundamental rights -- primarily the right to work and to equal remuneration -- only thus can one speak of real democracy in which all citizens, irrespective of whether man or woman, young or old, that is, without any discrimination, are directly participating in the management of the socioeconomic activity, of society, and in consciously fashioning their own free destiny of well-being and happiness. (loud, prolonged applause, cheers) Women's situation and position in our country demonstrates on the basis of unquestionable facts the superiority of our socialist democracy and the profound humanism of the society we are building on Romanian soil.

The implementation of the 13th congress decisions and of the program and plan for our socioeconomic development up to 1990 and until the year 2000 ensures the elevation of our homeland to new heights of progress and civilization. Within this framework, all our people, therefore, women, too, will have available everything that is necessary for a dignified and free life of well-being and happiness. (loud, prolonged applause; chants of "Ceausescu, heroism -- Romania, communism!")

Esteemed comrades, the 13th party congress has opened up new and bright prospects for the whole of our country and for Romania's constant advance on the road of socialism and communism. By the year 2000 Romania will be a comprehensively developed socialist society in which all working people and all people will be able to enjoy a high level of material and cultural civilization.

In accordance with the congress guidelines, overall activity will focus on the intensive development of industry and agriculture, improving the technological level and quality, perfecting manpower and production and social relations, deepening the workers revolutionary democracy, strengthening the workers' self-management and self-administration, most effectively making use of our country's human and material resources, and greatly increasing the national income, a fact that will create a lasting and secure foundation for constantly improving the material and cultural living standard of all our people.

Thus we have a clear program for the country's development in the current stage and in the future. What is essential now is to properly organize our forces, to ensure that the creative energies and capabilities of all our people are mobilized in order to implement this excellent program.

Together with all our people, women have to contribute actively to fulfilling the uniform national plan for the country's socioeconomic development this year and in the 1981-85 5-Year Plan period. to implementing the special programs for improving the technological and qualitative level of production, increasing labor productivity, cutting back on material and energy consumption, and for firmly applying the principles of the new economic-financial mechanism and of workers self-management and self-administration in order to more vigorously increase efficiency in all areas and increase profits and the national revenue -- the basis of further improving our general standard of living, the basis of the country's development, and of improving the people's material and cultural well-being.

The 13th party congress forcefully stessed the need to take firm action to strengthen the role of the family in society and in developing our socialist nation. As the congress established, in the coming period we have to achieve -- in the shortest time possible -- a natality of some 18-20 per thousand capita that will ensure an appropriate natural increase and will improve the vigor and youthfulness of all our people.

Acting in this spirit, the National Council of women, the women's committees and commissions -- together with youth organizations, trade unions, and other mass and civic organizations -- have to carry out an intensive political-educational activity to strengthen and develop the family. Special attention has to be paid, in particular, to cultivating the great responsibility devolving on the family to raise as many children as possible and to educate them in a healthy spirit as future reliable citizens of our homeland who are able to develop and to carry on the wonderful work performed by their parents, and the work of these years of profound revolutionary changes. There is no more noble or more honorable duty of the family and of women than the duty to ensure the development, raising, and education of the new generations in the spirit of work and of love for and attachment to the homeland, the party, and people, and the cause of socialism and communism in Romania! (loud applause, cheers; long chants of "Ceausescu-RCP!" and "Ceausescu and the people!")

Esteemed comrades, in a few days, on 17 March, the election of deputies to the Grand National Assembly and to the county, municipal, town, and communal people's councils will take place. The overall preparations and progress of the elections have to clearly demonstrate our workers' revolutionary democracy, the steadfast unity of all of our people with the party, and our socialist nation's determination to ensure the firm implementation of the 13th party congress decisions that have been adopted as an electoral platform by SDUF.

I am firmly convinced that all our people will demonstrate, through the 17 March vote, their profound attachment to the great achievements that have been registered under party leadership in the socialist development of our homeland, our nation's determination to do all it can to strengthen our socialist state, its revolutionary accomplishments that also include ensuring equality for all our homeland's citizens, irrespective of sex or nationality, so as to ensure Romania's elevation to new heights of civilization, well-being, and progress. (loud, prolonged cheers; long chants of "Ceausescu deputy to the country's great forum!" and "Ceausescu, Romania -- our esteem and pride!" and "Ceausescu and the people!")

I would like to mention, on this occasion, too, that in all the activity of building socialism and achieving great revolutionary changes, we had to overcome many difficulties. Some mistakes have been made and many shortcomings have been noticed, but our party has always known how to unite the forces of all our people in order to overcome any difficulties and how to ascend to the high, unconquered peaks of communism. It also knew how to find the best paths to attain this goal.

We still have difficulties and shortcomings. For example, we had a harsh winter, but in spite of it our working people realized that we must do everything possible to ensure production and the country's development. If the room temperature was low, they put on another coat; but they understood that we must overcome the difficulties of nature, the frost and drought, and look forward to and have confidence in our own forces because only this way will we be able to ensure progress. Only by fighting difficulties did our forefathers learn how to overcome many obstacles and they sacrificed their lives so that Romania should develop into a great nation, so that Romania should progress toward socialism and communism! (applause, cheers and chants)

The true patriots and revolutionaries were never afraid of difficulties and never complained about them. As a matter of fact, a great poet of our country noted: "Those who fight grumbling, even if they were fighting in the front lines, would be viewed by us no better than any cowardly fugitive." We do not need complainers! We need revolutionary fighters who do everything for the fatherland and its bright future! As a matter of fact, there is a folk-saying: "Some stay at the front for cakes, and at the rear for fighting."

Certainly one can state that there are some people who want to have everything and, as far as possible, without working for it; who want to be among the first to take greatest advantage, but want to work as little as possible or even not work at all. We do not need such revolutionaries and fighters!

I am convinced that together with all our party, the women of our fatherland will fully contribute to the successful development of this important manifestation of our workers revolutionary democracy and will elect the best sons and daughters of our country to the Grand National Assembly [GNA] and to the local state power bodies. They will elect those who have demonstrated through all their activity that they can give priority to the interest of our people and of socialism -- those who are not afraid of difficulties -- and can fight like true revolutionaries for the cause of well-being and flourishing of all our nation and Romania's independence and sovereignty. (cheers; chants of "Ceausescu -- peace")

Esteemed comrades, in the spirit of the 13th RCP Congress guidelines, Socialist Romania will further promote a foreign policy of peace and cooperate with all nations throughout the world, and will directly contribute to finding solutions to the great problems facing mankind and to building a better and more just work on our planet. We will consistently act to develop relations with all the socialist countries, primarily with our neighbors. We consider that the consolidation of cooperation, solidarity, and socialist unity is of greatest importance in developing the construction of the new system in every country, in raising the prestige and force of socialism, and in establishing international peace and cooperation. We will pay particular attention to developing relations with developing countries, with nonaligned countries, with the small- and medium-sized countries which make up the great majority of the world and are directly interested in a policy of cooperation, independence, and peace. At the same time, we will further expand our relations with developed capitalist countries, with all the countries of the world regardless of their social system, in the spirit of the principles of peaceful coexistence. We will participate in the international division of labor and the international exchange of values and in constructively resolving the great problems of our times. As in the past, in international relations our country will resolutely militate for unflinching respect of the principles of full equality of rights, independence, and national sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs, mutual advantage and renunciation of the threat and use of force, and respect for the right of each nation to choose its way of development without any outside interference. The basic issue of our times is to halt the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race, to start disarmament, and ensure a lasting peace throughout the world.

Romania believes that under the current international circumstances when the dangerous arms race, especially the nuclear arms race, has immeasurably increased the danger of a new world war that would inevitably turn into a nuclear catastrophe and that would destroy the whole of our planet, everything must be done to halt the current dangerous trend of events, to achieve disarmament, and to resume and affirm the policy of detente, cooperation, and peace.

The tremendous material and human resources in the world must be used solely for peaceful development and for ensuring progress and the well-being of the peoples and not for the purpose of war and the destruction of our planet. (cheers; chants of "Ceausescu -- peace")

Under the current international circumstances, we believe that more than ever it is necessary for all states, and especially states possessing nuclear weapons, to take responsible actions to achieve real measures for disarmament and to avert the danger of a nuclear catastrophe. We believe that the agreement achieved between the USSR and the United States in connection with beginning, in the first part of March, negotiations on nuclear disarmament and halting the militarization of outer space is a very important and positive step. We believe, however, that this agreement and the beginning of the negotiations alone will not resolve the exceptionally complex problems of nuclear disarmament. Therefore, all necessary efforts must be made so that these negotiations will meet the peoples' expectations and that they will bring about appropriate agreements on proceeding to disarmament.

Therefore, Romania advocates the immediate cessation or freeze of nuclear armaments and a halt to the production of new nuclear weapons, to the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe, and to the Soviet countermeasures. Proceeding to such measures from the very beginning of the Soviet-American negotiations would demonstrate that both sides participating in the negotiations have the real desire to reach a real and appropriate agreement.

The continuation of missile deployment and placing of other nuclear weapons in Europe during the negotiations would, in actual fact, mean these negotiations are being used as a screen in order to calm public opinion while the nuclear arms race actually continues. At the same time, we believe that all European countries that are directly interested in eliminating nuclear weapons from the continent must be more active and must participate, in one form or another, in the progress of the Soviet-American negotiations with positive results, and must contribute to achieving proper agreements on nuclear weapons and on the renunciation of any plans for militarizing outer space.

We proceed from the fact that all actions aimed at militarizing outer space will actually lead to an intensified arms race and to an increase in the danger of a nuclear catastrophe. We also believe that the activity within international bodies and conferences on disarmament and strengthening security on the continent must be intensified. What I particularly have in mind is the need to take firmer action to ensure that the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Stockholm will take place in a constructive spirit and with positive results. I am also referring to the Vienna negotiations on the gradual reduction of troops and arms in central Europe within the framework of which numerous proposals have been forwarded that may constitute a basis for achieving appropriate agreements; and I am referring to debates within the Geneva Disarmament Committee.

All these things could influence positively the progress of Soviet-American negotiations and could contribute to the general improvement of the political atmosphere in Europe and throughout the world. In the face of nuclear danger, everything must be done so that, beyond any differences of social system or ideology, all countries on this continent act and cooperate closely to achieve a united Europe of peace and cooperation, without nuclear weapons, without any kind of weapons, and without wars.

On behalf of the peoples and of today's and tomorrow's generations, on behalf of women and children, and on behalf of all residents on our planet, we must act, before it is too late, to halt the arms race, to stop the world's advance toward a precipice, and to defend the basic rights of nations and of people to life, to peace, to independence, and to a free and dignified existence.

We will act with great determination to develop multifaceted cooperation among the Balkan countries and to turn this area into an area without nuclear weapons and without foreign military bases. We advocate the creation of such nuclear-free zones in northern and central Europe and in other parts of the world.

Taking account of the closer and closer interdependence that characterizes the development of international events, Romania is consistently acting to solve all conflicts and disputes solely by peaceful means and negotiations, irrespective of which part of the world they are in, and to achieve the complete renunciation of the use or threat of force. Life has demonstrated that large or small wars, so-called local wars, serve only the imperialist forces and cause great damage and losses to peoples. It is in the interest of each people to do all they can to renounce the military way, to solve problems by negotiations, and to ensure peaceful coexistence and relations of good-neighborliness between nations.

The Romanian people have always supported and are supporting the liberation struggle waged by peoples and the efforts to consolidate the political and economic independence of each nation. In this spirit, we have granted and continue to grant our support to the struggle waged by the Namibian people under the leadership of the South-West African People's Organization to win Namibia's independence. We firmly speak against the racist and apartheid policy and for ensuring full equality and the participation, with full rights, of all citizens in South Africa in sociopolitical activity. Romania firmly advocates -- and it has made numerous proposals in various international forums -- the elimination of underdevelopment, of the great gaps between rich and poor states, including the problem of foreign debts that increasingly burden the developing countries, and the establishment of a new world economic order.

We believe that resolving those problems within the framework of real negotiations between the developed and the developing countries is in keeping with the general interests of surmounting the world economic crisis and of ensuring the harmonious development of all countries and the general policy of cooperation and peace throughout the world.

We will continue to struggle, with great determination, to increase the role played by the United Nations in the international arena and ensure the participation, on a completely equal footing, of all states in resolving the complex international problems. Today mankind is confronting very grave and complex problems. We are convinced that, in taking united actions, peoples are able to change the trend of events: they are able to halt the outbreak of a new world war, to impose disarmament, and to ensure a lasting peace throughout the world in which each people is able to develop in complete security and to fashion a free and happy life as they desire. We are convinced that the peoples, who constitute the true force of progress, will know how to stop the imperialist policy and to ensure the triumph of reason and peace in the world. [cheers; chants]

Acting in the spirit of the policy of peace and cooperation promoted by our party and state, the National Womens Council must constantly develop and strengthen its relations, contacts, and cooperation with womens organizations in the other countries and with other similar organizations abroad, and it must act more closely with them and with the democratic and progressive forces and organizations everywhere to ensure the triumph of the policy of peace, detente, and disarmament, and to strengthen trust, security, and cooperation among all nations in the world. (applause; cheers)

The celebration of International Womens Day has always been an excellent basis to assert the solidarity and determination of women everywhere to defend and struggle for their rights, for democracy, and peace. Under the current circumstances, 8 March -- the international day of women's struggle -- must intensify the struggle waged by women everywhere, together with all peoples to achieve a new policy, to win economic and political rights, but especially to achieve peace and the observance of each nation's right to freedom, independence, and to a dignified life. (cheers, chants)

Esteemed comrades, in conclusion I would like to again express the conviction that the discussions at your conference and the decisions you will adopt will contribute to an even closer unity of the creative energy and ability of the millions of women in Romania in the process of the exemplary fulfillment of this year's plan and of the 5-year plan, and in implementing the historical documents of the 13th RCP Congress, the program of building the comprehensively developed socialist society and Romania's advance toward communism, and the policy of peace and cooperation promoted by our party and state. With this conviction, I wish you and all women in our homeland greater and greater successes and satisfaction in your overall activity devoted to Socialist Romania's progress and flourishing, to implementing the party and state policy, and to building socialism and ensuring peace, understanding, and cooperation with all nations. I wish you much good health and happiness and the complete success of the proceedings of the National Womens Conference -- a high democratic forum of women in Romania. (cheers. chants of "Ceausescu and the people")

Conference Ends 8 March

AU081419 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1321 GMT 8 Mar 85

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 8/3/1985 -- On March 8 proceedings of the National Conference of Women concluded in Buchagest. During the last meeting of the conference the participants endorsed a call to all the women in Romania to intensify efforts in view of implementing the targets of economic and social development set by the 13th Congress of the RCP. At the same time the high forum of the women in Romania endorsed an appeal calling the national and international womens organizations to contribute to the implementation of peace, disarmament and cooperation among peoples. The conference also elected the National Council of Women. At the conclusion of proceedings a telegram was sent to RCP General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu, president of Romania.

Appeal Issued

AU091404 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1205 GMT 9 Mar 85

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 9/3/1985 -- In their appeal launched on March 8, at the end of the conference's proceedings, the Conference of Women in Romania solemnly calls on all national and international women's organizations around the world to make concerted efforts to stop the dangerous course of events, avert the threat of a nuclear disaster, make the peace, independence and cooperation policy prevail the world over.

We call on all women throughout the world, whatever their political, philosophical or religious beliefs, whatever their race, to speak with one voice for disarmament, nuclear first and foremost, to do everything they can to bar the way to war, safeguard the peace of their homes, their children's lives, the lives of the generations today and tomorrow, the document shows.

In consideration of the serious situation on our continent -- where most of the nuclear weapons are concentrated -- we fervently call on you, dear women friends in Europe, to join our forces in far-reaching actions as part of the great disarmament and peace movement, and stop the location of medium-range nuclear missiles, free our continent from all nuclear weapons, achieve a free Europe of peace and cooperation.

We call on all the nations of this continent to be more active and, on this line, to take part, in an appropriate way, in the Soviet-U.S. nuclear disarmament talks due to take up, with a high sense of responsibility, questions the settlement of which is of direct concern to all peoples and on which peace and security in Europe, the whole world depend.

We solemnly call on the governments of all the states taking part in the Stockholm, Geneva and Vienna conferences to spare no effort for these outstanding fora to adopt as soon as possible concrete and realistic measures apt to promote disarmament, build up confidence and security in Europe and the world over. With the major aspirations of our own peoples as a basis, let us work in close unity for zones of peace and cooperation, free of nuclear weapons and foreign military bases to be created in the Balkans, in the north of Europe, and in other parts of the continent and the world.

Dear women freinds everywhere, the appeal further says, we also make a ringing call to take concerted action for the huge sums wasted on the development of destructive means to be used for each nation's economic and social development, for the eradiction of hunger and illiteracy, for man, for life.

More than at any other time is it today the duty of the progressive and democratic forces in Europe and all over the world, of the broad masses of people, of all nations to work vigorously and in concert for the governments, the states, all politicians to take more responsible, consistent and firm action for disarmament and security, for the resumption of the course toward detente, for the establishment of a new international economic order, for a better and more just world.

The document calls on women everywhere to work so as to make the year 1985 that ends the United Nations decade for women on the theme equality, development, peace and opportunity not only for evaluation, but also for a strong mobilization of all women forces and consciences, for the building of a world of peace and understanding.

Highly interested in a peaceful future for our children, we call on all national and international womens organizations to make an in-depth approach in the international youth year to the general problems of the young generation -- so dear to us -- and to join in our efforts under the generous theme participation, development, peace.

May our call for peace strike a deep note in the conscience of people of good faith everywhere, of women around the world so that, forty years after the victory over fascism, we can confidently look to the future and be sure that mankind has fully learnt the lessons of history, the appeal concludes, expressing the firm belief that by taking action in unity, women everywhere can make the love of liberty and peace prevail.

REACTION TO MESSAGES ON CHERNENKO DEATH

TANJUG Reports Death

LD111123 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1110 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 11 Mar (TANJUG) -- It has been officially announced in Moscow today that Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has died.

Planinc Message to Tikhonov

LD111928 Belgrade Tanjug Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1620 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Mar (TANJUG) -- Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council, has sent a telegram to Nikolay Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, in which she expressed deepest condolences on the occasion of Chernenko's death, on behalf of the Federal Executive Council and herself.

"Konstantin Chernenko, an eminent statesman and leader of the Soviet Union, has greatly contributed to the development of friendly relations and comprehensive and mutually beneficial cooperation between our two socialist countries, which we have always highly appreciated.

"In this moment of grief, I wish to express a conviction that successful Yugoslav-Soviet cooperation, based on mutually established principles, will continue to develop and advance in all fields, which is in the permanent interest of the peoples of our countries, peace and progress in the world," says the telegram from Milka Planinc.

Dizdarevic to Gromyko

LD112059 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2004 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Mar (TANJUG) -- On the occasion of Konstantin Chernenko's death, Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs, has sent a telegram expressing his deepest condolences to Andrey Gromyko, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and USSR minister of foreign affairs.

Sukrija to CPSU CC

LD111628 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1401 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Mar (TANJUG) -- On the occasion of the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Ali Sukrija, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, has sent the CPSU Central Committee the following telegram:

"Dear comrades: With deep regret we received the news about the death of Comrade Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. On behalf of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, the LCY Central Committee, all the Communists and working people of our country, and myself, I extend the expressions of deepest condolences to the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the CPSU Central Committee, and all the Soviet Communists, working class, and nations and nationalities of the USSR.

"By the death of Comrade Chernenko the friendly peoples of the Soviet Union and the Soviet party and state have lost their top leader and a tireless fighter for the further socialist development of the USSR and peace and cooperation in the world.

"Comrade Konstantin Chernenko had been the head of the Soviet party and state in the very important period in which important decisions were being made on the further development of Soviet society, the 27th CPSU Congress, and the new revision of the CPSU program. As the most eminent party and state leader, he made a significant contribution to this.

"We greatly appreciated the commitment of Comrade Konstantin Chernenko to the development of wide-ranging relations and cooperation between the LCY and the CPSU and between our two socialist countries on well-known and mutually established principles, in the permanent interest of our peoples and countries.

"We will always cherish the memory of Comrade Konstantin Chernenko.

"We beg you to extend our most sincere condolences to the family of Comrade Konstantin Chernenko."

Sukrija Receives Charge

LD111413 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1153 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Mar (TANJUG) -- Ali Sukrija, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, received today Eduard Krasavin, charge d'affaires of the USSR Embassy in the SFRY, who conveyed a message from the CPSU Central Committee Politburo concerning the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. On this occasion Comrade Sukrija expressed profound commiseration on behalf of the LCY Central Committee and the LCY Central Committee Presidium.

Djuranovic to Supreme Soviet

LD111904 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1515 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Mar (TANJUG) -- On the occasion of the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Veselin Djuranovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, has sent a telegram of condolences to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The telegram reads:

"With grief the SFRY Presidency received the news about the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The friendly peoples of the USSR suffered a great loss with the death of Konstantin Chernenko. While carrying out for a long time the responsible duties of the eminent leader of the Soviet state and party, among which are the duties of chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and general secretary of the CPSU, Konstantin Chernenko greatly contributed to the socialist development and general progress of his country, which will remain forever in the memory of Soviet people. We will remember Konstantin Chernenko as the statesman who actively worked in favor of preserving peace. At a time when negotiations about a large number of basic problems concerning the present-day world, especially halting the arms race, reached a crisis caused by distrust, he greatly contributed to efforts to establish an atmosphere of understanding and cooperation, much needed for the safe and tranquil development of all countries and peoples.

"The SFRY Presidency highly appreciates Konstantin Chernenko's contribution to the constant development of friendly relations and comprehensive cooperation, based on equal footing, between our two countries on mutually established principles, which are the guarantee of the friendship of our peoples, and which express their long-lasting interests and contribute to peace, the development of socialism and world progress.

"On behalf of the nations and nationalities of Yugoslavia, the SFRY Presidency and myself, I extend expressions of our deepest condolences to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the friendly peoples of the USSR on the occasion of Konstantin Chernenko's death. I beg you to convey to Konstantin Chernenko's family these expressions of our most sincere sympathy with them in their grief."

Alimpic to Supreme Soviet

LD111949 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1704 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Mar (TANJUG) -- On the occasion of Konstantin Chernenko's death, Dusan Alimpic, president of the SFRY Assembly, has, on behalf of the SFRY Assembly and himself, sent a telegram of condolences to the USSR Supreme Soviet. The telegram, inter alia, states that the nations and nationalities of Yugoslavia highly appreciate the great contribution of Konstantin Chernenko to efforts to consolidate friendship between the peoples of the SFRY and the USSR and to develop comprehensive cooperation between our two socialist countries, permanently based on confirmed mutually established principles. The telegram also pays tribute to Chernenko for advocating the struggle for peace, disarmament and development of peace-loving cooperation between the states and peoples of the world.

TU Council to AUCCTU

LD112234 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1425 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Mar (TANJUG) -- On the occasion of the death of Konstantin Chernenko, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Council of the Federation of Trade Unions of Yugoslavia has sent a telegram to the All-Union Central Council of Soviet Trade Unions [AUCCTU] expressing the deepest condolences of the working class and the trade unions of Yugoslavia.

Djuranovic, Sukrija to Funeral

LD121148 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1112 GMT 12 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade, 12 Mar (TANJUG) -- An SFRY delegation, including Veselin Djuranovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, Ali Sukrija, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs, left for Moscow this morning to attend the funeral of Konstantin Chernenko, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. In Moscow, the SFRY delegation will be joined by Milojko Drulovic, Yugoslav ambassador in the Soviet Union.

The SFRY delegation was seen off at the airport at Batajnica by Sinan Hasani, member of the SFRY Presidency, Dusan Alimpic, president of the SFRY Assembly, Dobrivoje Vidic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, Borislav Srebric, vice president of the Federal Executive Council, Colonel General Petar Gracanin, Yugoslav People's Army chief of staff, and other personalities. Also present was Eduard Krasavin, charge d'affaires at the USSR Embassy in Yugoslavia.

Sukrija Congratulates Gorbachev

LD111946 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1705 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Mar (TANJUG) -- Ali Sukrija, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, has sent a telegram to Mikhail Gorbachev on behalf of the LCY Central Committee Presidium and himself, conveying heart-felt congratulations on the occasion of his election as general secretary of the CPSU and expressing best wishes for his successful work in that responsible office to the benefit of the friendly peoples of the USSR and peace in the world. The telegram also expressed the conviction that relations and cooperation between the LCY and the CPSU and the two socialist countries will continue to develop successfully on the basis of well-known, jointly established principles and that this is in the lasting interest of the friendship between the nations and nationalities of the two countries, peace, international cooperation on an equal footing, social progress, and socialism in the world.

Chernenko's Influence Viewed

LD111830 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1634 GMT 11 Mar 85

[By Aleksandar Novacic]

[Text] Moscow, March 11 (TANJUG) -- For some time longer than one year's time while at the head of the Soviet party and state, Konstantin Chernenko succeeded, any doubt [as reveived] in leaving an important imprint in his country's political life, both internally and internationally.

The illness prevented Chernenko from showing clearly visible qualities of a policy-maker in a full measure. Therefore, one can judge of the short-lasting "Chernenko period" more by the political credo in which the topmost Soviet leader framed his political speeches and letters through which he addressed the domestic public and partners abroad than by the real result of the jobs he took over.

Internally, Chernenko fundamentally worked out ideaological and theoretical elements of the main themes to be covered in the "new version" of the CPSU programme. The "new version" should be adopted at the 27th CPSU Congress. In his words, it rests on "realistic evaluations of both attainments and unsolved problems,"

Chernenko insisted on the significance of transition "from extensive to intensive economic operations," a formula being used for pointing to the essential importance of changes in the overall strategy of economic development. In addition to speaking in favour of stronger autonomy and responsibility of enterprises, Chernenko was also in favour of changes in the economic mechanism and turns towards a wider renewal of the scientific-technological revolution.

During Chernenko's year important moments were noticed in the Soviet foreign policy, too. The face-to-face Soviet-U.S. dialogue was re-established. Although he did not meet with the topmost U.S. officials, Chernenko often drew attention to the fateful importance of a renewal of negotiations, stopping the arms race and, particularly, stopping any transfer of arms into outer space.

His evaluations of possibilities for improving Soviet-U.S. relations were realistic, for all that they were imbued with the wish to make a step forward.

Substantial progress in relations was also made towards neighbouring People's Republic of China.

Sundic Sees No Change

LD111656 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Milika Sundic commentary]

[Text] The death of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, which undoubtedly constitutes a heavy loss for the USSR and world peace, will definitely change nothing in the country's foreign and internal policy regardless of who is elected new head of the state and party.

In less than 2 years the USSR has lost three of its leaders: Brezhnev, Andropov, and, now Chernenko. Konstantin Chernenko headed the Soviet state and party for just more than 1 year. He was Leonid Brezhnev's closest associate; while under Yuriy Andropov, he took over the sector for ideology, which is considered to be the second most important and influential position within the Soviet leadership. Chernenko spent a long time as a member of the party apparatus and during that period revealed all the qualities that he used to strengthen the party's role in Soviet society, its action and organizational ability to resolve major tasks confronting the USSR.

During the short period he spent at the head of the state and the party, Chernenko continued with the same political course, both at home and abroad, that his predecessor Yuriy Andropov pursued. In recent times he was most preoccupied by the preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress and by the work on a new party program to which he made great contribution.

Chernenko also paid great attention to the USSR's foreign policy and to the strengthening of the country's defense capabilities. In his interviews last year to two U.S. television companies and to THE WASHINGTON POST, Chernenko advocated negotiations with the United States and disarmament. His view was that in view of their role in the world the USSR and the United States could and should overcome the differences that separate them, and that differences in social systems should not hamper negotiations between the two superpowers.

As for disarmament, Chernenko used to stress that an agreement on this major problem of the present time was possible only if approached by both sides in a proper way. At the same time Chernenko used to stress that the USSR would not allow the United States to gain supremacy in nuclear missiles, and that it would do its utmost to keep pace with the other superpower. Armed with the same instructions, the Soviet delegation left for Geneva to attend negotiations with the United States on nuclear weapons and the demilitarization of space which, as previously agreed, should start tomorrow.

Like his predecessors, Chernenko also paid exceptional attention to the strengthening of the Warsaw Pact's role and, as the phrase goes, the closeness among the socialist camp led by the USSR. This, without a doubt, will remain one of the main preoccupations of the Soviet state and party since, as we have already stated, no changes either in external or internal policies should be expected after Chernenko's death.

In the last year relations between the SFRY and the USSR have been developing in the spirit of friendliness and mutual understanding, on the principles of the documents signed by both sides, from the historically important Belgrade declaration to others. Sincerely saddened by the death of Konstantin Chernenko, we rightly expect that Yugoslav-Soviet relations will continue to develop along the same lines.

DEFENSE MINISTER MAMULA DEPARTS FOR LIBYA

LD111111 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0936 GMT 11 Mar 85

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Mar, (TANJUG) -- Admiral of the Fleet Branko Mamula, federal secretary for national defense, left this morning for a working visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and its Armed Forces. During the visit to nonaligned and friendly Libya, Admiral of the Fleet Branko Mamula and members of his delegation will tour some units and institutions of the Libyan Armed Forces. They will also have talks with their hosts on the further development of inter-army cooperation between the Armed Forces of the SFRY and Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

At Batajnica Airport the federal secretary for national defense was seen off by Colonel General Petar Gracanin, chief of the General Staff of the Yugoslav People's Army; Colonel General Slobodan Alagic, air force and air defense commander; Major General Bogdan Rencelj; Simo Papic; and Rear Admiral Milun Nikolic. 'Abdallah (Burqi) [as received], secretary of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah People's Bureau in Yugoslavia, and 'Abdallah (Fituri) [as received], head of a People's Bureau department, were also present at the airport.

OFFICIAL CONFERS WITH RAMADAN, OTHERS IN BAGHDAD

LD080606 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1736 GMT 7 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad, March 7 (TANJUG) -- Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan received in Baghdad today Yugoslav Government member Jon Srbovan and conferred with him on the present state of relations between the two countries. They discussed the work of Yugoslav enterprises on capital development projects in Iraq and on commodity trade, as well as prospects for overcoming emerging difficulties and the further promotion of cooperation between the two countries. Prior to this, Jon Srbovan conferred with Iraqi Minister of Trade Hasan 'Ali on the forthcoming session of the joint Yugoslav-Iraqi Committee for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation in Belgrade and with Iraqi Minister of Transport and Communications 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd al-Rahim al-Asadi on certain projects in Iraq on which Yugoslav work organizations are engaged.

BRIEFS

NEW SEMIAUTOMATIC RIFLE -- Belgrade, March 8 (TANJUG) -- The Yugoslav People's Army has introduced a new domestic weapon -- a semi-automatic 7.9-mm-calibre [as received] rifle equipped with telescopic sights. The new rifle -- the M-76 -- is the product of seven-year research at the Zastava armaments plant of Kragujevac (Yugoslav Republic of Serbia). The 4.5-kg rifle operates under the Kalashnikov system. It fires 16 rounds a minute in combat, with an ultimate range of about 5000 metres. The rifle features a telescopic sight or an infra-red sight for night shooting. The optical sight weighs 800 grams, has a viewing angle of five degrees and a fourfold magnification. With this sight, targets within 120 metres can be hit with great accuracy. The infra-red sight weighs 1.8 kilos, has a 4.7 times magnification and ensures successful shots up to 300 metres. The rifle receives clips with ten rounds. The weapon underwent about 10,000 tests and measurements of all kinds before it was issued to snipers. According to the Belgrade daily VECERNJE NOVOSTI, the M-76 will soon begin to be exported. [Summary] [Belgrade TANJUG in English 1708 GMT 8 Mar 85 LD]